

The  
Arabian  
Year Book  
1987/88  
5th Edition



# ARAB TIMES

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NO. 7165 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1988 JAMADI AL-THANI 19, 1408 AH 16 PAGES 150 FILLS



Sultan Qaboos



## Talyzin sacked

MOSCOW, (Reuters): Soviet state planning chief Nikolai Talyzin has been removed and transferred to another post, the official Tass news agency reported yesterday.

## Ferry strike

LONDON, (AP): Seamen striking against the seafarers' union yesterday voted to return to work yesterday but thousands of others continued their walkout against other ferry operators for a fifth day.

## Pant in Moscow

MOSCOW, (UPI): Indian Defence Minister Krishna Chandra Pant arrived in Moscow yesterday for an official visit, the Tass news agency reported.

## Jet project

ABU DHABI, (Reuters): Egypt's defence industry chief suggested to remarks published yesterday that Arab states cooperate with Cairo in building a warplane. "We have the industrial and technical base that would enable Arabs to produce a warplane," Lieutenant-General Ibrahim Orabi told Al Wahda newspaper in Abu Dhabi.

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## Iran contacts may bear fruit

# Embargo unrealistic: Qaboos

GENEVA, Feb. 6, (Kuna): Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said of Oman has spoken out against the possible imposition of an arms embargo against Iran.

In an interview with the Swiss newspaper Tribune de Geneve today, Sultan Qaboos commented that "such an idea is not realistic."

"It is only a political expression — in other words it would have a value more symbolic than real," he added.

The recent visit to Iran by an envoy from the UAE, acting on behalf of the GCC, had created more chances of reestablishing peace, or of restricting the spread of the fire, he went on.

The Sultan observed that at the Arab summit in Amman the delegates had launched an appeal for peace, but at the GCC summit in December the participants wanted to take a step further to open the way to work effectively in favour of peace.

**Dialogue**

This involved having a dialogue with two parties, with Tehran.

"As Saudi Arabia, who is current president of the GCC, had a dispute with Iran following the problems of Makkah, I suggested nominating the UAE to open this dialogue with Tehran," he said.

"We are studying the response," following the visit of the envoy, he added.

Asked what chances there were for an end to the Gulf war, Sultan Qaboos replied: "There is always a chance, but it is impossible to say whether this war will finish today or whether it will continue for another eight years."

"Security Council resolution 598 created an adequate basis for a just and mutually honourable end to the conflict."

## Oppose

"The two countries have accepted it but they are not in agreement over the order of priority of putting it into effect," he went on.

The Sultan did not oppose the idea of a United Nations naval force in the Gulf, as suggested by

## Foreign policy not affected by cabinet reshuffle

THE Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rasheed Al Rashid was quoted as saying that the recent cabinet reshuffle has got nothing to do with Kuwait's foreign policy.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily Rashid said that Kuwait remains committed to its proclaimed foreign policy and to its stand on developments in the region.

He said that the reshuffle last

month has no impact on Kuwait's efforts to end the Gulf war and to achieve Arab solidarity.

He added that Kuwait's endeavour at this stage is to bring the Gulf war to an end.

"The Arab joint action and Islamic efforts can achieve nothing as long as this bloody war is going on," the minister went on.

Rashid noted that Kuwait has explained to the international

community the dangers of the continuation of this war, and conveyed useful proposals to all the parties concerned, including Iran, urging Tehran to listen to the 'voice of reason' and negotiate peace with Iraq.

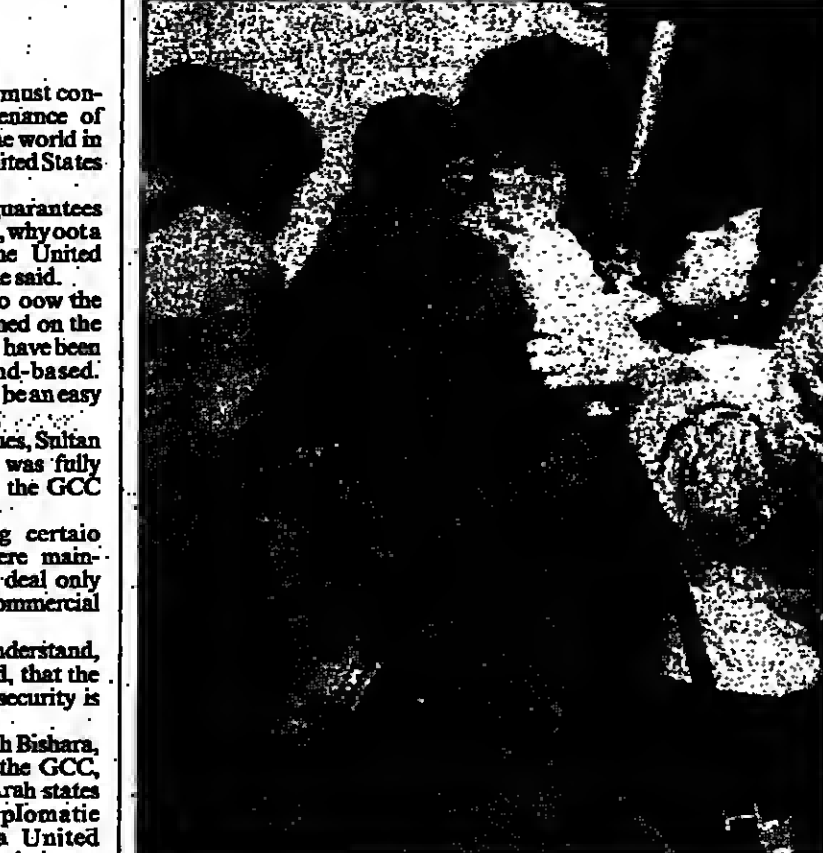
## Uprising

Regarding the Palestinian uprising which has entered its third month, the minister said that Arab failure in fully supporting

the uprising is attributable to the continuation of the Gulf war, as the Arab attention is preoccupied with this war rather than with the Palestinian cause.

Kuwait as current chairman of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, hold the superpowers responsible for the Israeli brutality towards the Palestinians, and asked them to put pressure on Israel to stop such inhuman actions," he said.

Rasheed Al Rashid



A Palestinian woman pleads with an Israeli soldier to let her go as they board an Army truck. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Murphy holds talks in Syria

US envoy Richard Murphy arrived in Damascus on Friday night at the start of a mission to try to relaunch the Middle East peace process.

## 2 hurt as Israeli troops open fire

PALESTINIANS in Arab neighbourhoods on Mount Scopus threw stones at Israeli troops today, sparking clashes between the two sides.

Reporters trying to enter Hebron were turned back by troops' hot residents said there had been no incidents in the city.

Protesters in Gaza City today threw stones at troops and hurled tyres in some streets but other parts of the strip were quiet, residents said.

## Blocked

The demonstrators raised Palestinian flags, blocked streets with burning tyres and threw rocks at police who arrested at least one protester, the sources said.

The crack of tear gas launchers could be heard and smoke from burning tyres rose from several points in Abu Tor on the 1948 ceasefire line dividing West Jerusalem from the eastern sector.

Arab residents in the northern Jerusalem neighbourhood of Anot, blocked the road to the Jewish suburb of Neve Yaacov with burning tyres. Police dispersed them with tear gas.

## Iraq cuts foreign workforce

BAGHDAD, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Iraq cut its foreign workforce by nearly one third last year, saving more than \$50 million in hard currency, industry Ministry Hatem Abd Al Rashid said.

Remarks published today in Al Qadisiya newspaper, Rashid said the number of foreigners was reduced by 30 per cent and his ministry also saved \$100 million in hard currency by switching from imported to local raw materials.

Egyptians, estimated to exceed a million, make up more than 90 per cent of Iraq's foreign manpower.

## Vatican meeting

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 6, (AP): The Vatican's foreign minister today met with the editor of an Arab-language Jerusalem newspaper, the second Palestinian figure he received this week.

The Vatican did not release details of the 30-minute meeting between Monsignor Achille Silvestrini and Hana Sionara, who edits the newspaper Al Fajr.

## Troops deployed as riots in Karachi spread

KARACHI, Feb. 6, (Agencies): Authorities ordered Army troops today to quell ethnic rioting that left at least 12 people dead and more than 80 others wounded in a spree of stabbings, shootings and arson, sources said.

Police fired tear gas and bullets at the demonstrators after they hurled stones and refused to disperse, the Karachi, Pakistan, commissioner said in a statement.

The death toll had risen to 12 by midday and more than 80 others were injured, police and hospital sources reported. At least 25 people were wounded in shooting, stoning and stabbing incidents, hospital sources said.

Police also imposed a curfew in three areas hardest hit by the riots.

## Escalating

Fighting spread through the city's downtown and western districts in escalating conflict between the Pathans — migrants from frontier province in north-western Pakistan — and Muslims, known as mohajirs, who migrated from India to Pakistan after the former British colony was partitioned in 1947.

The two ethnic groups clash frequently over housing and jobs in the overcrowded port city of nearly nine million people.

Police eventually restored calm after nightfall but news of the battle spread to other poor neighbourhoods of Karachi, sparking clashes between Pathans and mohajirs.

Both groups are Muslim and neither is native to the city, but they live close together in shabby working-class neighbourhoods where they compete for jobs.

One mob attacked a police post early today in the Landhi district of eastern Karachi, officials said. They did not indicate which group was responsible or report any casualties.

Throughout the city, marauding youth gangs burned dozens of shops and vehicles, witnesses said.

## Reagan is kind, Nancy is smart

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, (UPI): President Reagan is especially kind and Nancy Reagan is especially smart, but he trusts people too much and she drives them "up the wall" with her perfectionism, according to their friend and former adviser Michael Deaver.

In an interview on ABC television network's "20/20" programme last night, the former White House aide — whose contact with the Reagans is suspended as he appeals a perjury conviction discussed the President and the first lady in light of his new book about them.

"Well, I think he is the most gentle man I've ever met," Deaver said of Reagan. "He is kind to a fault, and maybe that is also his worst quality. He believes and trusts people. He simply takes people for what they are and what they appear to him to be, and he believes the best about them. And in this world, and in this town particularly, that may not be a strength."

Asked to judge Mrs Reagan's best and worst qualities, Deaver responded: "She is probably one of the smartest people I've ever met. I think if you want to talk about what ever worst quality is, her perfectionism drives you right up the wall."

Deaver said he finds nothing wrong with the First Lady's widely noted practice of advising the President on major issues.

Nancy threw a surprise party yesterday for her husband to mark his 77th birthday today and the President teased her in wondering aloud where she got the time "after making a deal with Soviets for the arms thing."

About 70 guests, including cabinet members, the White House staff and Reagan's longtime friends and aides attended the lunch in the state dining room. Today will be Reagan's last birthday as President.

## Jordan agrees to PLO demand on 242

ABU DHABI, Feb. 6, (AP): A PLO official says Jordan has agreed that UN Security Council resolution 242 should be amended to add Palestinians' right to self-determination, the newspaper Al Itihad reported today.

The group objects to resolution 242, passed after the 1967 Mideast war, because it refers to the Palestinian problem only as one of refugees.

"The PLO is ready to accept resolution 242 if it is amended to include securing our right of self-determination," said Salah Khalaf, second-in-command of Fatah group.

Khalaf, in the newspaper's dispatch from Tunis where the PLO is currently headquartered, said that the PLO demand has "met with Jordanian approval" in the course of Jordanian-Palestinian talks lately held in the Jordanian capital of Amman.

## 19th Iraqi attack this year

## Tit-for-tat tanker raids continue

MANAMA, Feb. 6, (Agencies): Iraq today said its Air Force attacked a large naval target believed to be an Iranian tanker in the northern Gulf after Tehran staged its third attack on shipping in a week.

In the latest escalation of the "tit-for-tat" tanker war between Iran and Iraq, state-controlled Baghdad Radio, in a news broadcast this morning, said Iraqi jets hit a "large naval target" — the standard Iraqi reference for a tanker or freighter in Iranian service.

The reported attack was Iraq's 19th claimed hit this year. A shipping source said an Iranian ship was hit in the Gulf at the same time the Iraqis claimed their strike. The source could not immediately give further details. The report could not be independently confirmed.

**Claimed**

Iraq gave no details of the ownership or registry of the ship it claimed to have hit.

An Iranian gunboat attacked the Panamanian-registered tanker Tavistock at 3 am yesterday in apparent revenge for an earlier blazing Iraqi strike on an Iranian freighter.

The attack ignited a fire in the engine room and crew quarters of the tanker that was quickly controlled by the seamen, shipping officials said.

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## Fines for expiry of residence

PEOPLE, whose residence permit expires during renewal, will have to pay a fine for the period between the expiry date and the renewal date, the director of the public relations department at the Interior Ministry, Colonel Ahmad Al Rujaili, has said.

He added, expired residence permits or visit visas will not be extended in accordance with the new amendments to the Residence Law.

## DAY BY DAY

THE meeting of Arab Finance Ministers in Tunis needs to produce something substantial. The ministers need to observe how economic deals are carried out among West European countries. In Europe, there are no restrictions on the movement of people or capital.

How can the Arab world function within an atmosphere where each Arab country has its own economic system, and under the pretext of protecting its citizens, each Arab country closes its doors to others.

Under such circumstances, we will continue to see Arab capital invested abroad where no such obstacles as those seen in the Arab world exist.

The only solution is that each Arab country which genuinely wants economic development, opens its doors instead of talking of economic cooperation without accomplishing anything.

Zahed Matar

## 'Be my Valentine'

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Valentine's Day is just around the corner let that special someone in your life know just how much you care.

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To: .....

From: .....

Your Valentine greetings will appear on February 14, 1988.

## WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be above normal with light northwesterly to moderate northeasterly wind and some clouds will appear.

State of sea: moderate

High water: 3.00 am, 2.00 pm

Low water: 9.00 am, 8.30 pm

Sunrise: 6.34 am

Sunset: 5.30 pm

Maximum temperature recorded:

Kuwait: 19°C 66°F

Abu Dhabi: 17°C 63°F

Falaka: 18°C 64°F

Maximum temperature expected:

Kuwait: 21°C 70°F

Abu Dhabi: 19°C 66°F

Falaka: 20°C 68°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 57 per cent

Abu Dhabi: 58 per cent

Falaka: 75 per cent

Maximum humidity expected:

Kuwait: 70 per cent

Abu Dhabi: 75 per cent

Falaka: 80 per cent

Minimum temperature recorded:

Kuwait: 17°C 63°F

Abu Dhabi: 11°C 52°F

Falaka: 10°C 50°F



## INTERNATIONAL

## Israeli agents blamed for car bomb explosion

## Amal commander killed

BEIRUT, Feb 6, (AP): A booby-trapped car exploded in a south Beirut district today, killing a local militia commander, police said.

The victim was identified as Abbas Awadah, known as Abu Rahih, 33, a security commander of Justice Minister Nahih Berr's Amal militia in suburban Haret Hreik, police said.

There was no responsibility claim for the killing. A terse Amal communique blamed it on "agents of Israel seeking to sow dissension within nationalist ranks."

The explosion occurred this morning, when Awadah turned on the ignition of his car to go to work. Three pedestrians suffered slight shrapnel injuries, police added.

**Damage**  
The wounded were a 22-year-old fellow and two kids, one of whom I carried to the nearest pharmacy. He was crying and vomiting," said Hasan, 22, who witnessed the explosion.

The windows of several apartment buildings overlooking the scene were shattered. Doors were ripped off by the explosion.

Army explosives expert warrant officer Mahmoud Idris said the charge was made up of five kilograms of TNT rigged in the motor Awadah's red Mercedes-Benz.

The blast killed Awadah instantly. The car was reduced to a smoldering pile of twisted metal. The blast scene is about 50 meters away from the residence of Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual guide of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah extremist faction.

But police said the influential cleric was not a target.

**Defused**  
Meanwhile, an Army explosives expert safely defused a powerful car bomb near an Air France office in East Beirut early today.

Police said Army warrant officer Youssef Bitar, who defused the bomb, estimated its power at 40 kilograms.

The charge was rigged in a blue Peugeot automobile parked in front of a sales office for Air France, the French national carrier, in east Beirut's suburban district of Jal El-Deh. There was no one at the office

when the bomb was discovered and dismantled, police said.

They said an investigation was under way to determine whether the bomb was related to a chain of attacks against Frenchmen in the Eastern sector of the Lebanese capital.

The last previous such attack came on Tuesday when gunmen shot and killed Frenchman Jacques Meurant with silenced automatic pistols as he drove his car in east Beirut's Ashrafieh district.

No group claimed responsibility for the assassination, which occurred two blocks from Lebanon's general security headquarters.

**Agent**  
Police said Meurant carried a Lebanese residence permit issued in October that listed his occupation as salesman. But the French news agency Agence France-Press quoted well informed sources in Paris as saying Meurant worked for the French secret service.

Meurant was the fifth Frenchman killed in Christian-controlled areas in 16 months. French engineer Richard Gimpel, 46, was shot and seriously wounded Nov 11 as he drove his car on the highway linking Beirut and the port of Jounieh.

He died in hospital 13 days later.

Two gunmen in a speeding car ranked three French Embassy guards with automatic gunfire as they shopped in East Beirut's Dora district Oct 29. Lieut. Christian Mondon and warrant officer Andre Cruz were killed while Pvt. Miguel Collignon was seriously wounded.

Military attaché Col. Christian Gouttiere, 60, was shot and killed near the Embassy's compound in east Beirut's Hazmieh district Sept 18, 1986.

No group has claimed responsibility for the killings. The Armenian secret Army for the liberation of Armenia yesterday disclaimed any involvement in the attacks on Frenchmen in east Beirut.

"We had nothing to do with any of the Frenchmen's killings in east Beirut," said an Asala statement distributed by hand to Western news agency offices in West Beirut.



A Filipino family stays beside the coffin of a 10-month-old daughter trying to raise money to bury the child who died of measles. (Reuter wirephoto)

## China seeks closer ties with Iran

BEIJING, Feb 6, (Reuter): A senior Chinese leader today told a visiting Iranian delegation Beijing hoped to "strengthen its cooperation with Iran in all fields," the official New China News Agency reported.

Chinese Vice-President Ulanhu said at a formal meeting with the group from Iran's Islamic Consultative Assembly that "a long-term steady and friendly relationship will be beneficial to the people of our two countries."

The agency gave no further details of meetings with the delegation, which arrived on Thursday for a one-week "goodwill" visit led by the assembly's deputy speaker Hojatoleslam Mohammad Yazdi.

The US has protested against China's alleged supplies of Silk-worm missiles to Iran for use in the Gulf war, and slowed the expansion of high-technology trade to Beijing in retaliation. Western officials have also alleged that China supplied large quantities of arms to Iraq in the early stages of the war.

On Thursday, the agency quoted National People's Congress Chairman Peng Zhen as telling the delegation that China and Iraq should negotiate an end to the war, but did not mention a UN ceasefire resolution passed last July.

## Filipino rebels use women as shields

MANILA, Feb 6, (Reuter): A band of 150 communist rebels burned down a town hall then used women and children to shield them from pursuing soldiers and police in a northern Philippine province, the state-run news agency said today.

A military spokesman said the guerrillas also took hostage 10 women who were wives of local lawmen.

Troops backed by helicopter gunships were sent after the rebels, the Philippine News Agency (PNA) reported.

PNA said the attack occurred on Thursday but reports were delayed because of poor communications.

It said there was a gunbattle between troops and rebels in the town of Tinglayan, in the mountainous northern province of Kalinga-Apayao, after the guerrillas set the municipal building ablaze.

Army captain Rudy Guligado said soldiers held their fire when the guerrillas grabbed women and children to protect them as they headed out of town.

He said the rebels released the children then fled after taking hostage the wives of police and soldiers.

In Manila, military leaders said they were releasing five people arrested earlier this week on suspicion of being top members of the outlawed Communist

Party. Their arrests, along with 15 others who have been charged with being hauled by the government as a major blow against the communists' 19-year-old insurgency. Guligado said the rebels fled to a nearby village.

**Gunbattle**  
In the south, four guerrillas and two soldiers were killed in a battle and 21 troops were wounded in land mine blast, the military said today.

A spokesman said more than 30 soldiers were on a routine patrol on Friday when their vehicles hit land mines in the town of Tandag, in Surigao del Sur province.

The rebels then opened fire on the soldiers, who returned fire until reinforcing troops arrived.

The spokesman said five helicopter gunships were sent to the area to assist ground troops and to fly the wounded soldiers to the city.

In Manila, Army spokesman Colonel Oscar Florendo said five rebel suspects detained with others in a series of raids on rebel hideouts were being released despite military reports that they were active in the insurgency.

He said the five had been linked to the Communist Party in the central Visayan islands but would be freed for lack of evidence.

## India sends more troops to crush Tigers

COLOMBO, Feb 6, (Reuter): India is to boost its troop strength in Sri Lanka to about 70,000 in an attempt to crush stubborn resistance by Tamil rebels, Sri Lankan government officials said today.

The officials said 15,000 additional troops are due to arrive.

Two Indian Army brigades are expected before Feb 10 and a third by end of the month, they said. That would increase the number of brigades in the island to 15.

The reinforcements would be deployed in the eastern district of Trincomalee and in the Vanni jungles of the north comprising Vavuniya, Mannar and Mullaitivu districts.

The influx of more troops is to finish the job against the terrorists as soon as possible," a Defence Ministry official said.

**Capable**  
Indian military officials here said transport planes arrived at Batticaloa in the east yesterday, some of them capable of carrying 400 to 500 soldiers.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in New Delhi said: "We have moved additional troops into Batticaloa but I am not going to go into operational details about whether there were eight or 15 platoons."

Sri Lankan officials said Indian soldiers in Batticaloa have been pursuing rebels from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam who have switched their campaign for a separatist state from the northern provinces to the east.

An Indian peacekeeping force was sent to the island's northern and eastern provinces in July when both countries signed a pact to end four years of Tamil separatist war in Sri Lanka.

Military officials said the Tigers had regrouped in Batticaloa after their northern stronghold of Jaffna was wrested from them by Indian soldiers in a major offensive last October.

There are now five Indian brigades in the Jaffna peninsula.

## Congress (I) forms cabinet in Meghalaya

NEW DELHI, Feb 6, (UPI): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party today forged an alliance with smaller parties and independents, allowing it to govern northeastern Meghalaya after this week's inconclusive state polls, reports said.

The Press Trust of India said 11 members of the Congress (I) Party were sworn in as the new ministry late today at the governor's mansion in Shillong, east of New Delhi.

The domestic news agency said Purno A. Sangma, formerly the central government's deputy labour minister, has been appointed chief minister to the jungle-covered state of some 1.3 million mostly Christian tribespeople.

Tuesday's polls left a power vacuum as the ruling Congress (I) Party won 22 seats, losing control of the 60-member legislature, but still having the largest power block.

A regional party, the Hill Peoples Union, bagged 19 seats, while independents and smaller parties took a total of 19. Counting was suspended in one district because of a dispute with the government in neighbouring Assam.

The Press Trust said the Congress (I) Party enlisted the support of some independents and smaller parties, giving it the absolute majority it needed to be eligible to rule.

## 2 hurt as Israeli troops open fire

(Continued from Page 1)  
Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

President Kenan Evren, Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and other officials took part in talks with Mubarak, who later left for home at the end of a tour which also took him to Western Europe and the United States.

PLO Chief Yasser Arafat has asked the United Nations to ensure that a group of Palestinian deportees is not prevented from returning by sea to Israel.

He made the appeal in a message to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, UN Security Council president Vernon Walters and the head of the London-based human rights group Amnesty International.

"We have no doubt about your support of these people's right to realise their wish to return to their motherland. We ask you to exercise your effective influence to ensure their secure arrival in their motherland," Arafat said.

## Naji awarded the Golden Pen of Freedom

PARIS, Feb 6, (AP): The International Federation of Newspaper Publishers (Fie) awarded its annual press freedom prize to Naji Al Ali, the Palestinian cartoonist shot to death last year in London.

The 1988 Fie Golden Pen of Freedom is the first in 27 years to be given either to an Arab or to a cartoonist and is only the second awarded posthumously.

Al Ali was 49 when he was killed by an unidentified gunman

last July in London, where he had been living in exile. Fie said that while no group claimed responsibility and the killer has never been identified, the murder was widely seen as an act of revenge by one of the Middle Eastern groups he satirised.

**Drownings**  
"It is a major function of the free press to comment upon and criticise the actions and policies of governments," Fie said in

awarding the prize. "This has been achieved in a most notable form by cartoonists as well as by writers."

The Paris-based publishers organisation said Al Ali used his drawings to attack tyranny wherever he saw it in the Middle East.

"His cartoons were so sharp that he offended every government in the region. His opposition to intolerance resulted in the

censorship of his work and banishment. But his work also attracted a wide following among those promoting compromise and understanding between governments and peoples."

"By awarding the Golden Pen to Naji Al Ali, Fie also wishes to recognise those other Arab journalists forced to live in exile because the only side they agree to take in a region crippled by its divisions is that of integrity and truth."

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## Kidnapping is not political: officials

## Unrwa men may be freed soon

BEIRUT, Feb 6, (AP): United Nations officials said today, they expected two kidnapped Scandinavians working for the UN Relief and Works Agency to be released soon.

"Their abduction is not political. It seems to be related to a recent dismissal of six local employees," said one Arab Unrwa official.

Masked gunmen in two cars rammed a marked UN vehicle at a highway bridge outside south Lebanon's port city of Sidon yesterday and grabbed a Swede and a Norwegian serving as Unrwa area operations supervisors.

The agency's chief spokesman Niall Kieley identified the victims as Jan Stening, 44, of Sweden, and William Jorgensen, 38, of Norway.

Unrwa's top manager in Beirut has called the abduction a "tremendous mistake" and warned that if the two were not freed soon all staff foreigners of the

agency would be pulled out of Lebanon.

The Arab Unrwa official said Stening conducted a "hush-hush investigation that revealed massive thefts of fuel and medical supplies from Unrwa's pharmacies in Tyre and Sidon two months ago."

Six Palestinian employees were dismissed after Stening turned in his report to the Unrwa headquarters in Beirut, the official said.

**Denial**  
"Some of the sacked employees apparently had connections with a local commander in a Palestinian commando group, and he carried out the abduction to avenge the dismissal," the official added.

"Senior guerrilla leadership have promised to deal quickly with the situation and ensure the safe release of the two Scandinavians soon. UN officials in Lebanon are optimistic," the

official added.

Unrwa's foreign officials declined to comment on the Arab's version, but also said they were hopeful that the two would be released soon.

A Palestinian source said the Fatah Revolutionary Council, a radical Palestinian commando faction accused of kidnapping two UN relief workers, but the group denied the charges today.

A Palestinian source said the relief workers were beaten and taken to the Palestinian refugee camp of Ain El Helweh, outside the southern port city of Sidon, after they were abducted yesterday while driving south of Beirut.

He said one of the two hostages was carrying personal belongings and was apparently planning to leave Lebanon after receiving threats from the radical group led by Abu Nidal.

But the group, in a statement distributed today, denied the report.

## Franco's widow dies at 87

MADRID, Feb 6, (UPI): Carmen Polo Martinez, widow of the late dictator Francisco Franco, died today, family members said. She was 87.

The couple's only child, Carmen Franco, was at her mother's bedside when she died.

Polo, suffering from acute arthritis, had been in frail health for the past several years and rarely went outside, two months after Franco's death on Nov 20, Pardo Palace, where she and the dictator lived during his 37-year rule, and increasingly shunned the public light.

During Franco's dictatorship, the Spanish press doted on "Donna Carmen," showing her at the Generalissimo's side, towering several inches above her stern-faced husband and smiling radiantly.

But she doted to gain wide popularity and many Spaniards viewed her as a haughty woman. Her reported love of jewelry earned her the nicknames "Donna Pearl" and "Donna Necklaces."

King Juan Carlos, Franco's chosen successor to carry on the old regime, bestowed posthumously on her the title of Dame of Meiras and a special pension from the state after the dictator's death.

## Sikhs slaughter family of eight

AMRITSAR, Feb 6, (Reuter): Sikh gunmen shot dead eight members of a family near the Sikh holy city of Amritsar and six other people were killed in various incidents in Punjab, police said today.

Police in Amritsar said gunmen, believed to be Sikh militants demanding an independent homeland, raided a house 20 km from the city last night and shot down Kundan Singh and his family.

Singh was suspected of being a police informer, the police said.

Six other people, including two policemen, were killed in other incidents involving Sikh extremists who have stepped up their armed campaign to demand an independent homeland to be called Khalistan, or the "land of the pure."

**Arrest**

More than 1,200 people were killed in Punjab last year compared to 640 in 1986.

Meanwhile, US police yesterday arrested a Sikh activist in 1985 explosion at Tokyo's

Narita airport that killed two luggage handlers as a Canadian jet.

The last occurred hours after an Air India Jumbo jet on a flight from Canada, exploded over the Atlantic off Ireland, killing all 329 people aboard on June 23, 1985 in an apparent bombing by Sikh terrorists seeking a separate homeland in India.

The Air India explosion remains unsolved. But a Canadian radio station reported police will arrest several other Sikhs living in Canada and charge them with conspiring to blow up the Jumbo jet, once Sikh electrician, Indjejit Singh Reyal, arrested yesterday morning in Coventry, is extradited back to Canada.

Canadian police would not confirm the report.

The two explosions, coming a year after Indian troops attacked and killed scores of Sikhs at their Golden Temple in Amritsar, raised speculation they had been set off by Sikh activists.



## Secondary school students will be given lessons on immunity from next year

# AIDS conference opens tomorrow

By Jadranka Porter

KUWAIT'S second international AIDS conference gets underway tomorrow with international experts expected to pass on the latest information about the killer disease to doctors from the WHO (World Health Organisation) Eastern Mediterranean region.

### Testing

The conference will cover medical as well as social and economic aspects of the disease, said Dr Rashid Al Owaish, the acting director of public health. From the medical point of view discussions will centre on epidemiology, clinical treatment and immunology. The three-day conference will be attended by Dr Jonathan Mann, director of the WHO's AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) programme. A public question and answer session in Arabic will be held on Wednesday, following the closing session, and the participants will include doctors, social workers and a lawyer.

Kuwait has one of WHO's

three regional reference laboratories for AIDS testing and has aspired to play a leading role in controlling the spread of the disease in the region. Having set up the required testing facilities the country has turned to tackling the social and legal aspects of the disease. All along, emphasis has been on information and education for the public as an effective means of preventing the disease.

From next year Kuwait's secondary school students will learn about AIDS at school. Information about the disease will be included in the curriculum for the third and fourth grade and science students in lessons on immunity.

The conference comes in the wake of a larger event, the AIDS summit of health ministers held in London in late January. The summit was the first attempt to unite the world against AIDS and was a resounding success, said Dr Al Owaish, who was a member of Kuwait's delegation.

One hundred and forty-eight participating countries agreed to

take urgent action to control the spread of AIDS and demanded that national programmes respect human rights and human dignity, he said.

Information and education for the people are the most important components of national AIDS programmes, because HIV (the AIDS virus) transmission can be prevented through informed and responsible behaviour, the final declaration of the summit said.

### Approach

Kuwait's proposal that national programmes should adopt a multi-sectorial approach was approved at the summit. This means that apart from health workers, police, teachers, social workers, lawyers and the media should play an active role in dealing with problems related to the disease.

To make this approach effective, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, the Planning Minister and the former Minister of Health proposed that high level committees should be formed in

each country with powers to put into practice the required measures.

Al Owaish said that the summit conference called for more information to be directed at policymakers, health and social workers, the media, international travellers, those at risk due to the nature of their jobs, blood donors as well as AIDS carriers.

### Protection

This is for their own protection and because of the important role they play in containing the disease.

The London conference appealed to the participants to exchange education programmes but some participants suggested it should be done on regional basis in view of the marked difference in lifestyles and ethical norms among various countries.

Kuwait's International Conference on AIDS opens on Monday at 9 am at the Sheraton Hotel and all sessions will be open for the public.



● Kuwait's State Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed, yesterday met the Mufti of Tripoli (centre).

## Establishment of Higher Education Ministry welcomed

THE establishing of the Higher Education Ministry and the appointment of the Education Minister, Anwar Al Nouri, as the acting Higher Education Minister, has resulted in various reactions among the teaching staff and students of Kuwait University.

A local newspaper interviewed a number of teachers and students to learn their reactions.

Mohammed Al Haddad described the action as a brave and important one. He said that all the teaching staff had been looking forward to such a step, and he hoped that the minister to be appointed would be the right man to shoulder the responsibility and would be dedicated to the task. He added that the new minister should have suitable experience in administration, particularly of academic institutions such as the university and applied institutes, in addition to ability to deal with teaching staff.

### Freedom

He said higher education needed a minister who was proud of his experience and at the same time respected the experience of others, adding that the new minister should prepare a cooperative atmosphere among the teaching staff in place of the tension that prevailed at present.

Dr Al Haddad said the minister must realise that the university was part and parcel of the community's social structure and would be affected by it.

He believed it was a basic need for the minister to respect the university's independence, adding that academic freedom must be given with regard to lectures and scientific research.

The new minister should bring about satisfaction and equality among teaching staff, and set up the necessary regulations and administrative procedures to govern the different departments of the university and applied institutes, he said.

### New law

A member of the education faculty, Dr Mohammed Al Musallam, said the government's recent step was the right one, adding that the establishing of Higher Education Ministry was in line with the country's educational aspirations.

He said that educated people in this country had been looking forward to such a step in view of the growing importance of higher education which required a devoted body to look after it.

He said the new minister should hasten the passing of a new law on higher education because the current law dated back to 1966 and was not able to meet the needs of higher education. He said the new minister should speed up the construction of the university's new building, in addition to creating new faculties or another university.

Another member of the education faculty, Dr Laila Hahib, said the establishing of a higher education ministry was inevitable in order to match the scientific and academic progress of advanced countries.

### Impressed

She said the teaching staff was impressed by the recent step, which embodied the state's desire to encourage academic studies and research for the sake of the country's progress.

She said the new ministry should undertake the organisation of higher education, establishing of a new university or developing of the existing one and the appointing of efficient staff. She suggested that the Higher Education Ministry should also be responsible for the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS), Amir Diwan studies and the Gulf

Education Bureau, while the Education Ministry should be responsible for junior graduation, applied institutes, education research centre and the National Committee for Education, Culture and Science.

A member of the economics, commerce and political science faculty, Dr Ghannem Al Najjar, said the Higher Education Ministry should introduce several activities that served the teachers and students. He added that the creation of a specialised ministry would surmount the red tape which hampered the progress of educational institutions.

He pointed out that the nature of higher education required flexible laws because the educational process was one of continuous development.

Salah Al Nafisi said that the idea of establishing a ministry devoted to higher education was supposed to have been realised many years ago, particularly in view of the existence of several institutions serving higher education, such as Kuwait University and KISR.

He added that linking of Education Ministry had resulted in ignoring many problems and under-estimating the importance of the university, and no appropriate resolutions were taken as a result.

## Curb on spending resulted in shortage of staff

THE Director of Kuwait's Jahra Health Area Dr Abdul Aziz Khalaf said the ministry's policy of curbing spending at hospitals and health centres had resulted in a shortage of technical personnel such as doctors and nurses.

He said the general medicine system would be implemented at the Minors Health Centre this March and praised Kuwait's health services, which he described as comparable to the highest international standards.

Khalaf added that the performance of Kuwaiti doctors was excellent and that they had proven their ability to fulfill all the responsibilities required of their profession.

The number of deaths reported in the Intensive Care Unit, he explained, were the result of the critical nature of the cases. Khalaf added that the hospital and health centre in Jahra treated a total of 129,000 out-patients daily.

## Amir's support hailed

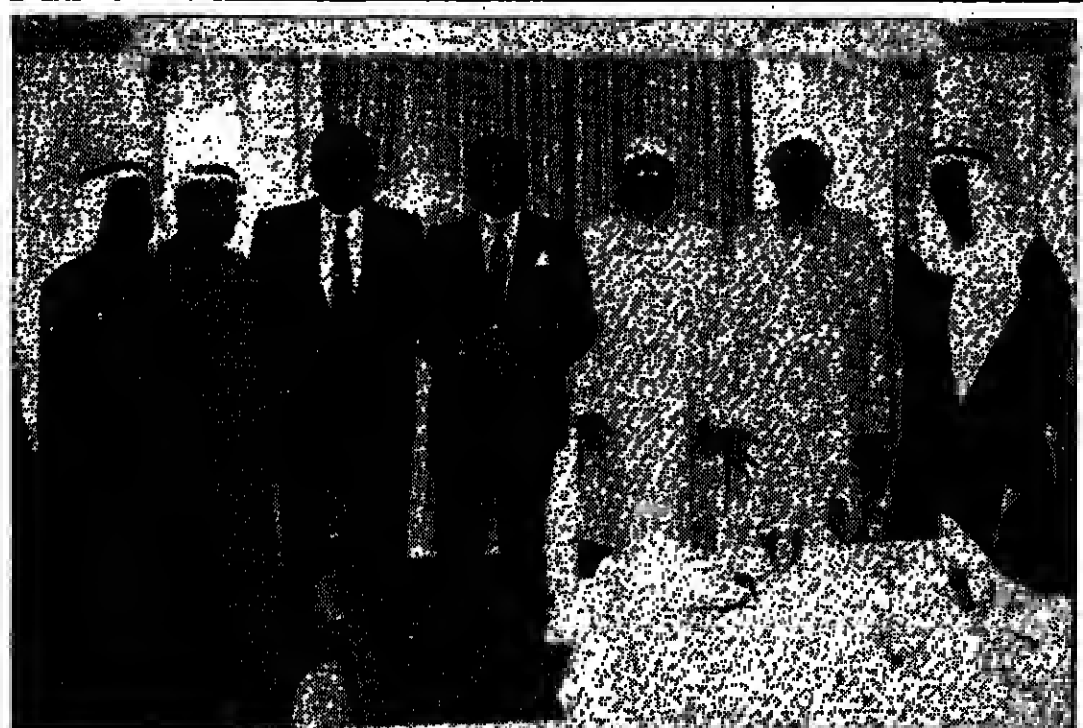
BOARD Chairman of the International Islamic Charitable Foundation, Youssef Jassim Al Hajji, hailed the continuous support extended to the foundation by the HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier.

The statement came at a meeting for the foundation's board of directors to discuss reports of the investment and Da'awa (Islamic call) committees within the foundation's intensive efforts at the world level and the visits paid by its delegates to Niger, Sudan, Somalia and Egypt in pursuit of the foundation's charitable projects.

## Direct dialling urged

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Communications has advised the public to use direct dialling when making international calls rather than operator-assisted calls. He explained that with direct dialling the caller is charged only for the number of minutes on the line while operator-assisted calls had a three-minute minimum charge.

For example, a one minute direct-dial call to the US would cost KD1 and a one-minute operator-assisted call to the US would cost KD3.



● A farewell dinner in honour of the representative of Sultanul Bohra, Shaikh Ebrahim Rashid, was hosted recently by Shaikh Saifuddin Katabjiwala. Picture shows (from left to right): Abdullah Banwan, Abdullah Mugni, Indian Ambassador N. N. Jha, Pakistan Ambassador Khalid Saleem, Shaikh Saifuddin Katabjiwala, Shaikh Ebrahim Rashid and Abdul Karim Al-Fatani.

## Kuwait free to seek its defence needs

KUWAIT is free in seeking its defence needs without reliance on any particular party, Kuwaiti Ambassador in Washington, Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Sabah said in a statement published in a Kuwaiti newspaper yesterday.

The ambassador added that Kuwait has been beefing up its defence systems through assistance from "multiple expertise for limited periods".

He categorically denied Kuwait had sought, in any particular way, the despatch of American forces to the Arabian Gulf, and stressed that it only had requested re-registering some Kuwaiti tankers under the American flag.

Replying to a question on current American moves to activate peace in the Middle East, Sheikh Saud said the Reagan administration is seeking to start Arab-Israeli peace talks after interim Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza lasting about one year compared to five years proposed under the Camp David accords.

He pointed out that the American proposals crystallized in talks which Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had with top American officials in Washington this week.

## Alcohol and drug control society planned

DR Ibrahim Marouf, the Director of Kuwait's Psychiatric Disorders Hospital, announced plans to establish an Alcohol and Drug Control Society in Kuwait. He added that 27 officials from the ministries of Social Affairs and Labour, Interior, Public Health and Education had requested that such a society be set up in an effort to control alcohol and drug addiction in the country.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, Dr Ibrahim said the proposed society would provide treatment for drug and alcohol addiction and organise educational programmes to inform the public of the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol.

The society would also provide financial aid to families whose sole wage-earner was undergoing drug rehabilitation, he said, and would contribute to regulations controlling drugs and alcohol supported by the government.

## Furniture: some nice, some hideous

# Modern Home Exhibition is worth visiting

By Keith Wells

THE Modern Home Exhibition at the Mishref Fairground is well worth visiting for two reasons. The first is to see some really nice furniture and household goods, the other is to see some stuff that is so hideous that one wonders who on earth would ever want to buy it, let alone live with it.

In the first category there are some gorgeous wooden trunks with carved lids inlaid with brass arabesques, beautifully fitting drawers and moulded hinges. They are real works of art and quite cheap at KD200. There's a Korean stall too that sells lacquer ware, jewellery boxes and miniature chests inlaid with mother of pearl. A small Chinese stall sells intricate wickerwork; baskets, howls, lampshades and lovely big domes of delicately woven bamboo that make great food covers.

Some of the furniture is quite nice, particularly the children's beds shaped like a Kuwait Airways jet or a Rolls Royce car.

Some youngsters fell in love with them at first sight and it was fun to watch them trying to persuade their parents that a bright scarlet Rolls Royce bed was a steal at only KD220.

### Unspeakable

Then there is the other side of the exhibition, things that, to my own taste, are unspeakable. Such as a large mirror, one metre by two metres with an old Kuwaiti door badly painted on it, the brass studs on the door actually sticking through the mirror itself. Or a mirror that had a sheet of glass mounted in front of it with flickering lights between the mirror and the glass. Or how about a huge incense burner, four foot tall, with an aquarium inside?

But then the merely garish becomes positively lurid and a kind of megalomania takes over. The bedroom is where it strikes, bedroom suites for the emperor and empress of the universe.

How can I describe a bed built with a headboard of pillars of mirror mosaic tile interspersed with shrouds and folds of silk with a pattern that can only be described as technicolour vomit. Then scatter the bed with half a



A bed with a headboard of pillars of mirror.

dozen pillows covered in gold and silver lame and shaped like hearts. Okay, now raise up the whole bed on a sort of plinth, a bit like Lenin's tomb, and have a set of steps leading up to the bed, all covered in the same kind of silk, preferably shot through with gold thread so it sparkles and spangles.

Mount several mirrors among the foldovers of the headboard and the mirror tile pillars, make a matching dressing table with a chair like the Galactic emperor's throne and put a price label of five thousand dinars on the whole horrifying mess. Maybe, someone will buy it.

### Revelation

Then there was the shower, a magnificence of marble about the size of an average living room, complete with three romantic pillars, four metres high. The carved and fluted white marble pillars trailing green vines and framing a shower on the left and a huge sunken whirlpool bath on the right. Monstrous vanity, giddy delusions of grandeur, such a bathroom might have been just the ticket for Caesar Augustus or someone who'd just been conquering Gani and needed a place to wash up and change his armour, but for Salwa?

The black and gold end of the furniture market is quite a revelation to those like me who have lived a sheltered life far removed from Lebanese fantasies of Louis Quinze gilt bordello chippendale.

Why have a chair, when you can have a throne, why have a sofa when you can make a statement of unmistakable opulence instead? The interior designers who create this stuff seem to have been fixated by Cecil B. De Mille movies, Fred Astaire stage sets, visions of Versailles and opiated dreams of science fiction fairy palaces. It's great fun, last year they had life size, luridly glazed china tigers and leopards to set on either side of your cathedral organ bedstead, but this year a more restrained mood seems to have taken over and there wasn't a technicolour terracotta peacock in sight.

The exhibition is on all week and is guaranteed to provide a couple of hours of harmless amusement, uproarious comedy and even a few beautiful objects. Like they say, beauty is in the eye of the beholder and with rose-coloured spectacles and hallucinations of grandeur one can visualise oneself in the emperor's suite.

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## Many campers prefer spring vacation in late February

ALTHOUGH weather conditions have not exactly been what campers expected during the spring holidays, some of them remain in the hope that weather conditions will improve.

Many campers complained that moving up the date for spring vacation for government schools to January instead of late February created a lot of problems, most of them related to the cold weather and rain. Visits to clinics for treatment of colds were common.

Others commented that it was too early and still too cold for some of the desert grasses and flowers in sprout, which was something they missed.

Seyassah newspaper interviewed a number of campers who were determined to enjoy their

annual camping and most of them agreed that the vacation simply came at a bad time. Many commented that they preferred having the vacation in late February when the weather was sure to be warmer and the desert greener.

### Reconsider

Campers requested Education Ministry officials to reconsider scheduling the spring vacation to a later date. Some added that since their children had returned to school, they go to work in the mornings, but return to their tents in the afternoon. Weekends are spent again at the campsites with the family and friends, they said.

Those interviewed praised the efforts of the government in providing security and trash

collection services for campers. They added, however, that there were some reckless drivers who disturbed campers occasionally and there had been some incidents of theft reported.

One camper Abu Faisal said that spring vacation was too early and thus campers suffered from the cold weather. He requested that officials extend the period for camping to April.

Most campers are looking forward to celebrating Kuwait's National Day Feb 25, saying this celebration while camping reminded them of their fathers and the quiet life they lived away from city noises. They concluded that the spring season could not adjust to match people's vacations, so they should adjust their vacations to match the season.



Dr Wang Hoi is served traditional Arabic coffee at the Sharq Public Cafe during his recent visit.

## 14,000 students to benefit from computer project

THE director of the computer connection to secondary schools project, Dr Humoud Al Saadoun, said that the computer had been connected to four boys schools and four girls schools in each of the five educational areas.

He added that about 14,000 students would benefit from the project in the meantime. Dr Al Saadoun, who is also an instructor at the engineering faculty of Kuwait University, said the first stage of the project aims at letting students familiarise themselves with the computer.

### Training

He said the idea of connecting the computer to secondary schools was initiated by Kuwait's National Computer Council.

He said that the project management had decided to provide teachers by appointing computer graduates of the Science Faculty and some science teachers in condition they took a course in computers.

He said that each school had been provided with two teachers



Dr Humoud Al Saadoun

— one a graduate in computers and the other an experienced teacher with training in the computer field.

Dr Al Saadoun said the management was engaged in providing a series of training courses to ensure sufficient teachers to have computers at all secondary schools.

He hoped the project would cover all general education schools, including primary schools, within two years.

## Science museum marks 16th anniversary

KUWAIT Science Museum celebrated its 16th anniversary yesterday, with a total of 3.2 million visitors enjoying the museum since its establishment in 1972. In 1978, 257,785 people visited the museum, officials said, and the lowest yearly number was 89,823 in 1973.

Students from various educational levels have toured the museum and tours are scheduled in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. The daily average for the number of students who visit the museum ranges between 2,000 and 2,500.

In 1954, the museum received the first airplane used by Kuwait

Airways Corporation, which is a model Dakota, used to transport passengers between Kuwait and Basra, Iraq. The airplane is one of the displays in the aeronautical section of the museum.

The museum has recently been preparing a hall for the history of education in Kuwait, which will exhibit pictures, graphs and publications marking Kuwait's educational progress.

Kuwait Science Museum is open to the public during the summer in the mornings with films planned for summer clubs. The museum has 3,384 exhibits including 234 in the astronomy section and two observatories.

## Seminar on protecting public utilities

A SEMINAR on protecting public utilities was held yesterday at Ahmadi for intermediate school students as part of the Model Government Week.

The speakers were the head of the research and study department at the Interior Ministry, Colonel Abdul Majid Khuraibet, a researcher, Nedai Al Fudairi, and an official of the Public Works Ministry, Jassem Al Shatti.

They explained ways and means of protecting public utilities, and told students about the role they could play in protecting these utilities. They also spoke about the amounts spent by the government on public services and projects.

## Leaflet case trial begins

THE State Security Court yesterday started trial of a Kuwaiti national accused of distributing leaflets instigating overthrow of the present system in the country. Sitting under its president, justice Mohamed Abdul Hal Al Banna, the court session heard an indictment laid made by the state prosecutor against Ismail Sayed Hassan Sayed Al Akber, 31.

He is accused of publicly inciting, through writing in public places, overthrow of the existing regime in Kuwait by force and illegal means. The prosecution also accused Ismail Akber of distributing in several public places copies of a leaflet urging citizens to reject the present system of government, revolt against it and to work for its replacement by force and by all illegal means.

According to the indictment sheet, the accused also publicly defamed, in writing, the Amiri personality by distributing a leaflet containing slander against the Amir of Kuwait.

Following a request by the prosecution, the court decided to meet behind closed doors to maintain public order and in regard of circumstances of the case.

### Search for water

ABU DHABI, Feb 6, (Reuters): The United States and the United Arab Emirates today signed a four-year agreement under which American satellites will search for water in the UAE, embassy officials said.

## Joint Arab military industry likely

ABU DHABI, Feb 6, (Kuna): Head of the Arab authority for military manufacturing Ibrahim Larabi underlined the possibility of establishing a joint Arab military industry saying Egyptian military industry can meet the Arab countries' weapon requirements.

Al Wihda issued here today quoted Larabi saying that military industry base in Egypt has the potential for producing aircraft if financed by a number of Arab states. He recalled that Egypt has developed the Ain Al Saqr (Hawk eye) rocket, adding that contacts are currently underway to export the rocket to a number of Arab states.

There are two Egyptian plants producing such rockets with the assistance of the rest of factories, Larabi noted. He also welcomed leaders from the Gulf area who wish to come to Egypt for training

courses in military industry in order to build a human base to back Arab military industry.

The Egyptian official said that Egyptian military industry aims at reaching self sufficiency in the field of armament and noted that his country has attained that goal in small weapons, rockets and tanks.

Larabi pointed out that resumption of Arab-Egyptian relations could open the way for more contacts and make Arab states better acquainted with Egyptian military production.

He hailed the outcome of the Egyptian military exhibition held lately in Kuwait, indicating that another one is to be held shortly in the United Arab Emirates and that the forthcoming stage is to witness more contacts between Egypt and Arab countries.

## Emergency water supply plan developed

SAUD Al Nasser, the Assistant Undersecretary for Water Affairs at Kuwait's Ministry of Electricity and Water, said the ministry had developed an emergency water supply plan aimed at increasing the capacity of fresh and brackish water reserves.

The plan, which also establishes an emergency distribution system, includes the installation of reverse osmosis units for the desalination of sea water in specified areas, he said, adding that the first of these units will be opened during National Day week this month.

Commenting on the reddish discoloration of water, Al Nasser said that the Water Resources Development Centre at the ministry had studied traditional methods used to treat the discoloration. He added that the most recent station opened in

Shuwaikh last September used the latest scientific methods to treat water in an attempt to remove the reddish colour. The same methods will be used in Doha and Zoor stations, he said, adding that the ministry was also studying the possibility of changing water pipes to minimise the problem.

Al Nasser, commenting on the problem of the seepage of underground water into building basements in various areas of the country, said the ministry had requested Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research to study the problem, with recommendations being made to use new pipes which meet the latest technical specifications. The study also recommended that building construction include insulation of basements and sewage networks.

## Wakil discusses Afghan conflict with Sheikh Sabah

AFGHAN Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil, starting a rare foreign tour, met the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed yesterday, to discuss the conflict in Afghanistan, diplomatic sources said.

The sources said Wakil would also visit Libya, Syria and Jordan to seek backing for his govern-

ment's views on a political settlement of its campaign against mujahideen guerrillas.

Wakil also discussed the Iran-Iraq war with Sheikh Sabah, the sources said.

He is the highest-ranking Afghan official to visit Kuwait, which chairs the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979.

Kuwait and other Gulf Arab states have long supported the mujahideen against the Soviet-backed government.

The OIC which suspended Afghanistan's membership after the Soviet intervention, called for the withdrawal of Soviet troops at a summit in Kuwait a year ago.

Moscow has since expressed readiness to leave and a United Nations mediator, Diego Cordovez, has been trying to reach a political settlement.

## Vietnamese minister visits public cafe

THE Vietnamese Health Minister Dr Wang Hoi and the Director of the World Cooperation Administration Nef Weinei Wang visited the Sharq Public Cafe recently accompanied by the deputy director of public relations from Kuwait's Public Health Ministry.

They were received by the Assistant Undersecretary of Youth Affairs Abdul Rahman Al Mazroui and the Director of Public Cafes Ali Al Sadah.

Al Mazroui presented the Vietnamese Health Minister with a commemorative gift after having Arabic coffee at the cafe.

## Palestinian children present memo to Norwegian envoy

THE Ambassador of Norway to Kuwait, Hans Wilhelm Longva, yesterday, received a group of Palestinian children, who handed over a memorandum to the Norwegian government concerning the prevailing situation in the West Bank and Gaza.

After receiving the memorandum, Longva said: "The recent developments in the Israeli occupied territories are a matter of serious concern and deep regret to the Norwegian government. We deeply deplore the loss of innocent human lives as a result of the recent disturbances. We call on all parties to show moderation in the present situation."

Englishman Peter Hall and his Irish wife Monica are accused of killing Helen Feecey, a matron at Taif Maternity Hospital who was found dead in her flat in April 1986.

## ROYAL COURT

### Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Soud Al Abdullah Al Sabah and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jobor.

### Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Soud Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received chief of the National Guard, Sheikh Salem Al Ali, Interior Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed, Minister of Labour Minister Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Rifai, Minister of State for Housing Affairs Nasser Al Roudhan and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashad Abdul Aziz Al Rashad.

Sheikh Soud also received adviser of the Amir's office, Abdul Aziz Hussain, Khalid Youssef Al Marzouk and Mayor of Khailan M'Naha Al Oasimi.

### Crown Prince cable

HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Soud Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to the New Zealand Premier David Lange on the occasion of his country's National Day.

## KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

### 'Real revolution'

KUWAIT newspaper yesterday continued commenting on the two-month-long Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Al Rai Al Aam described the uprising as a "real revolution" which came out of the rubble, noting that the situation in the occupied territories is out of control, even for the US which is trying to abort the resistance, by a veto of the Security Council or by sending an envoy to cool off the demonstrations.

This revolution came out to tell the world that "Arab Palestine" will not die by a promise given by Balfour or a threat by Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, the paper noted.

It said that Palestinians are no longer believers in "America's lies," Security Council resolutions or Europe's reassurances, stressing that whether Israel occupies on international conference does not concern them anymore.

The daily warned those who wait for UN resolution to end Israeli occupation of Arab soil, that they will be waiting for a long time.

## Murder trial postponed

RIYADH, Feb 6, (Reuters): A Saudi Arabian court today adjourned until February 15, the trial of an Anglo-Irish couple charged with the murder of an Irish nurse, a British Embassy spokesman said.

"The judge opened the trial just long enough to adjourn it till next week," he said.

Englishman Peter Hall and his Irish wife Monica are accused of killing Helen Feecey, a matron at Taif Maternity Hospital who was found dead in her flat in April 1986.

Relatives of both the victim and the accused were in Taif to attend the trial, which had already been postponed a number of times.

Murder carries a possible death penalty in Saudi Arabia.

### Motorist killed

ONE motorist died when his car collided with another car on Sixth Ring Road on Friday.

There were a total of ten traffic accidents in Kuwait on Friday, with four each in Hawalli and Ahmadi and two in Jahra.

## Ferry ticket price hike defended

THE increase in the price of ferry tickets to Failaka was a step towards rationalising spending and reducing the burden on the government, the assistant operations manager of technical affairs at the Kuwait Public Transport Company (KPTC), Badr Abdul Wahab Al Najar, said.

He told a local newspaper that the hike will not affect Failaka residents.

He said the step was taken because of the increase in the price of vessels and spare parts.

He said KPTC was facing many problems in transporting passengers to and from Failaka. Some passengers did not comply with the rules announced by ferry captains. They also did not realise that international regulations limited the number of passengers on a ferry.

Some passengers didn't care about preserving public property, writing on walls and destroying seats.

Fishermen sometimes cast their nets in ferry routes, and this damaged the vessels and endangered the life of passengers.

He said the company paid part of the cost of transporting the passengers. A trip by fast ferry cost KD2.150 per head, but KPTC bore 650 fils and charged the passenger KD1.500 only. He

said 12,340 round trips were made from Ras Al Aard to Failaka last year and carried a total of 518,852 passengers.

Al Najar said the company had found it necessary to replace old vessels with new ones, and contracts had been made with international companies for two new ferry boats and equipment.

The specifications for the new vessels have been altered in the light of past experience and include entertainment facilities. KPTC has also ordered a barge for transporting cars and luggage.

He said the company paid great attention to developing better services and a research team was formed to get the views of engineers and passengers.

The company tries to satisfy its passengers and is keen to keep to schedules. During Ramadan vessels arrive at Failaka or Ras Al Aard 30 minutes before sunset.

He said that all captains and technical staff are qualified and hold certificates to ensure international safety standards.

He said the company offers Failaka residents a 50 per cent discount for a one-year season ticket.

Al Najar said the company owns nine ferries. It has one slow ferryboat with a capacity of 222 passengers, three medium speed ferries with a capacity of 80 pas-

sengers, three fast ferries with a capacity of 80 passengers, and two ferries for 90 passengers and ten cars.

Regarding facilities during the haj season, he said that at least 80 buses and two ambulance teams were rented for haj purposes and the company planned to increase the number of buses to 100 in the future.

The manager of Ras Al Aard port, Saleed Al Salim, said that the port does not operate in bad weather. He urged passengers to comply with reservation rules and to come at the scheduled times.

A passenger, Walid Hassan Khalfan, said that the increase in ticket prices did not affect Failaka residents because they were given a 50 per cent discount, but the increase affected the price of foodstuff which was transported by ferry.

Another passenger, Saleh Al Asfour, said the recent increase in the ticket price was acceptable. He said the ferries had modern safety and security systems and good services were provided during the journey.

A third passenger, Assad Jaber, said ticket prices were high for those with limited incomes. He said his relatives living in Kuwait found it hard to visit him because the tickets might cost a family KD20 per trip.



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1/9736	Zinc Sulfate	KD. 2/-	15.2.88-12.00 noon
1/9744	Anti-Foam	KD. 2/-	15.2.88-12.00 noon

Tender documents can be purchased from the Administrative Services Dept. at K.N.P.C. Head Office from 8.2.1988.



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Tenders are invited for the supply of the following item:

Tender No.	Material	Tender Fee	Issuing Date	Closing Date
LM03	Beach Chairs with Kuhlweil can imprinted on each one.	2/-	6/2/1988	22/2/1988

Tender documents can be purchased from the office of the Superintendent Administration Services, KNPC Head Office as from 6/2/1988

## OBITUARY



ISIDORE IGNATIUS D'SOUZA  
Born 2.11.1954  
Expired 27.1.1988

Was called to his eternal abode on 27.1.88. Body will be flown to Mangalore, India. Last respects can be paid at Sabah Hospital on Monday 8.2.88, between 9.30 and 10.30 am.

Friends and relatives kindly treat this as the only intimation. For further details please contact Tel. 4714283/4712572.



● Hurrying doesn't pay. The owner of this car was in a hurry to reach his destination but couldn't. In his hurry, he tried to take a shortcut over the pavement to the Airport Road in the Shuwaikh area and his car was hit by a passing car.

ملف الإحصاء



## GOING PLACES

SRI LANKA'S best known film actress Malini Fonseka has played "almost all the roles that anyone ever wanted to" in real life. Not so in real life, though. Malini wanted to be a doctor but "drifted into films due to my interest in acting."

Malini started her career in films more than 20 years ago. And in as many years, she has won 32 awards — all the top awards Sri Lanka offers to its performers. Unlike film stars, Malini takes success in her stride and like so many other things, she accepts the accolades with humility and says: "Well, it just happened."

Malini's film and personal achievements seem to be a matter of a series of accidents. She became an "actress by chance." She met her husband, Lucky Dias, by chance. And now, just by chance, she has gone into production and direction.

She won critical acclaim for her performance in her own production, Sasara Cheina, an action-thriller that became one of the top hits in 1981. She has, so far, acted in 120 films.

She happens to be a very private person, never giving away anything about her personal life, jealously guarding the private moments of glory with an infectious smile and a twinkle in her doe-eyes.

Film stars and glamour are synonymous. Not so for Malini and Lucky. Glamour — being in the public eye — is just another part of "our lives." If they are mobbed, they "don't get upset" but enjoy "sharing some moments with people who adore our work."

"We are not extraordinary people. We are just normal human beings," they say in unison. If they could they'd

## Lucky by chance

demand more time to "be together."

"We hardly spend any time together," they say. When Lucky is out, Malini is in. When she is out, he is in. "I wish I could spend more time with my wife," says Lucky, as Malini nods, agreeing with her husband of two years.

They get an opportunity to relax only when they go on trips, like the one to Kuwait.

Sri Lanka has a relatively smaller film industry, producing an average of 30 films per year in nearly all genres, social, comedy, action, adventure and thrillers. "Art films" with a serious theme are also made and they deal with topical social problems. Though the government supports the film industry and established the National Film Development Corporation, the country is yet to get an acting school.

"All our performers have an in-born talent for acting," says Malini, lamenting the absence of an acting school, "like my husband who has a natural ability to perform."

Lucky is only one film old star — to Malini's production, Ahinsa, now running to full houses in Colombo. He started his career in advertising and considers himself to be an "ad man" and still runs a business in Colombo. "I came from nowhere and was dumped into the world of films," says Lucky. His heart, though, lies in making television, a medium he sees as reaching "more people in an hour than a film does in months." An estimated 4.5 million people watch television regularly in Sri Lanka, according to Lucky.

Lucky was last year chosen as the most popular actor on TV after appearing in a 15-part serial called Yoshorwaya. He has recently completed another series called Himi, Ahimi, loosely translated as "Lost and Found," revolving around the lives of a brother, a driver, and sister, a maid, who returned from the Gulf.

Their lifestyle changes due to the wealth they earn in the Gulf. But they lose perspective of values, losing knowledge of things that matter, thus the title Himi, Ahimi," he explained.

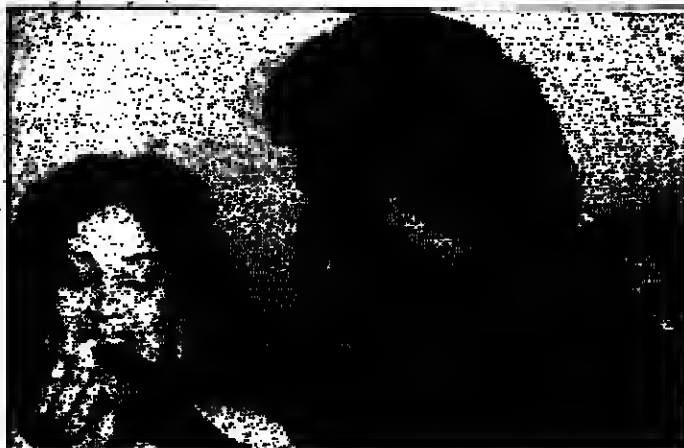
The serial, based on a novel by Edward Mallavarachi, will be shown in Sri Lanka in April this year. Lucky has also completed work for three other films, which will be released shortly. And Malini is currently planning her next venture, a film revolving around the problem of women.

They also plan to organise a Sri Lankan film festival in Kuwait and the Gulf.

"Our cinema is good but not many people are aware about its progress. We'd like to show some of our good films to cultivate cultural relations between Sri Lanka and the Gulf states," they said.

In Kuwait, the two stars were welcomed by thousands of Sri Lankans at a festival, they attended on Friday, and also celebrated Lucky's birthday amid much cheering from crowds.

Lucky and Malini, who arrived last week, return to Colombo tonight after spending a "delightful holiday" in Kuwait. The trip, certainly, was not by chance.



A moment of sharing: Lucky shares the cake with wife Malini

## 'They treat me as one of the boys'

"THEY are treating me as one of the boys," Jeanne Southworth, the only female member of a British trade mission which visited Kuwait last week, told us.

Jeanne admits doing business is tough, particularly for a woman. "It can be very lonely and competitive," she said. A firm believer in women's rights, she supports the idea of more women managing their own businesses.

"The concept of women in business is normally accepted in UK. I believe women are doing business in this part of the world too. I think this is a good trend," she said.

Making a business trip to the Gulf requires businessmen, particularly businessmen, to be very open-minded.

Jeanne came to Kuwait with an open mind but "very little experience" of the market. She was impressed by the response from local businessmen.

"Men in Kuwait accept the idea of doing business with a woman," she said. Jeanne said her main task was to "study the potential of the market" before establishing business ties. She feels the prospects are rather good.



Jeanne Southworth: businesswoman

good.

Jeanne, who has been in business for several years, feels that combining an executive job with marriage and home life can often prove taxing. "One needs complete understanding on the part of both partners. If this is possible, it is just fantastic," she said.

Jeanne, who is the sales manager of Hilden, a textile firm, is training her assistant to handle business in Europe and UK. She will cover regional markets in the Middle East and other markets worldwide.

LK

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

- 2.15 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News Via Satellite
- 3.30 Total Al Ma'laeb: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 News Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 Nuruddin Zanki: daily historical serial; starring Laila Tabar, Ali Hasan
- 5.30 Al Manahat: series for children, featuring Amal Dabbas, Tayseer Attiya, Rabe'a Shihab
- 6.00 Songs and Music
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 Soora Min Al Tabayin: documentary
- 7.30 Diwanat Shuara Al Naht: poetry session
- 8.15 Good Evening and Local News
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Photographia: daily Arabic serial; featuring Abdullah Ghaiith, Madiha Hamdi
- 10.50 An Al Safar (About Travel): Fawzia Abbasi talks about planning travel and how to make holiday plans work.



The story of Ford: The Men and the Machine continues tonight at 10.30 pm.

- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News Via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

## KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Lone Ranger: "The Great Balloon Race." The Lone Ranger and his Red Indian friend participate in an exciting race.
- 6.30 Butterfly Island: Gigi

loses his job and Charlie comes to his rescue.

7.00 Understanding Islam: a weekly local show on Islam.

7.30 The Wacky World of Sports: a light hearted look at sporting events.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Hot Shots: "Absent Minded." Amanda Reed (Dorothy Parke) and Jason West help a private eye find the real killer of an industrialist.

9.30 Foley Square: "Jack's Back." Jack, a criminal put behind bars by Alex, is paroled and threatens Alex.

10.00 Q.E.D.: "Before Your Time." A look at the four dimensions: space, distance and time in the universe.

10.30 Best Seller: "Ford Part 2." Ford appoints a power-hungry sailor, Harry Bennett, ridiculing his only son. His relationship with Evangelio, his mistress is also revealed.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

## Hotel holds reception

A DINNER reception was recently hosted for hotel guests and members of the Recreation Club at the Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Trophies and prizes were also distributed to the finalists who participated in the tennis tournament, held recently. The prizes were presented jointly by Ali Sultan of W. J. Towells, and Ali Salam's Recreation Manager, Bob Jones.



## PRAYERS

Fajr	5.12 am
Zuhr	12.02
Asr	3.09
Maghreb	5.31
Isha	6.50

Al Andalus  
Al Nimir Wal Unsa (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Sahiya  
The Living Daylights  
Starring: Timothy Dalton

Al Hama  
Darb Al Hawa (Arabic)  
Starring: Madiha Kamel, Yusra, Farouk Fishawi

Drive-In  
Al Nimir Wal Unsa (Arabic)  
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Firdous  
Dil Jala (Hindi)  
Starring: Jackie Shroff, Farha

Fahadhel Open-Air  
Kali Ghata (Hindi)  
Al Fahadhel

Sammanasullavark Samad-anam (Malayalam)  
Al Jahra

Hamari Jung (Hindi)  
Gramda

Deewana Tere Naam Ka (Hindi)  
Sulabikhat

Watan (Pushto)  
Al Jibeh

Hruthuhedam (Malayalam)  
Ahmadi Drive-In

Wanda Nevada

## NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Al Ghanem Pharmacy  
nr Carito Hotel, Fahd Al Salem St.

Al Amal Pharmacy  
Commercial Market, Mubarak Al Kabir St.

Hawalli and Nagra  
Al Ikhlis Pharmacy  
Opp. Andalus Cinema, Beirut St.

Sahiya and Ramadhiya  
Al Randa Pharmacy  
Salem Al Mubarak St.

Fahadhel and Ahmadi  
Al Fulaj Pharmacy  
Khalifa Fulaj Bldg., Maklah St. Fheel

Khalitan  
Al Fahd Pharmacy  
New Khafan suburb

Jahra  
Al Zahra Pharmacy  
New Souk

All entries for the What's On column must be handed over personally to Events Section, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaiikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## WHAT'S ON

## SOCIAL

German-Speaking Cultural Association  
The next coffee morning will be held on Sunday, Feb 7, at 10 am at Kuwait Hiloo Hotel's Old Failaka room. All German-speaking ladies are welcome.

Kuwait Natural History Group  
The next meeting of the group will be held on Feb 9, Tuesday, 7.30 pm at the Gulf English School, Mahmoud Shihab of the Science Museum will give an illustrated talk on "The Reptiles of Kuwait."

Kuwait Society for Handicapped  
An open souk featuring everything from silks to groceries, silverware to rugs and toys, is being held at the premises of the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped, behind Andalus Cinema, Cairo St. Open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 3 to 7 pm, until Feb 15.

Photography contest  
Kapilko will hold a photography contest for Filipinos called "Portrait of Filipinos in Kuwait." Entry forms are available from all Filipino restaurants and the Philippines Embassy. Last date to enter the competition, which is open only to members of Kapilko, is March 1. For further details contact Dick Orsen — 4877793.

Music Concert '88  
Adeeb, Lynley (vocals), Amaar (guitar/vocals), Aasim (keyboard-synthesizer), Mur-taza (bass guitar) and Raza (drums) will participate in the Music Concert '88, due to be held on Feb 19 at Al Andalus Cinema. They will present a variety of songs by Duran Duran, Europe, Bonjovi and others. Tickets available at Al Andalus box office. For details contact — 5618482 or 3983165 (Adeeb).

Kuwait Welsh Society  
Annual St. David's Day dinner at Messilah Beach Hotel on Tuesday, March 1. For tickets and further details phone 4874548; 3910875; 3912384.

Kuwait Cultural Centre  
Ballet lessons for children will be held on Sundays and Tuesdays from 5 to 6 pm. Tel: 5624393 for details.

Kuwait Roudels  
Aiden J. Harvey (British TV comedy impressionist) will be the special guest at the Kuwait Roudels 1988 Gala Anoual Ball at Messilah Beach Hotel on Feb 11, Thursday. Tables available for six, 10 or 12 people. Dress formal, lounge suit. Tickets — KD 10. For reservations ring Paul Richards — 5337597; Martin Chetnam — 4745916.

Flaskik  
Flaskik will hold a Valentines dinner-musical at 6.30 pm Feb 12, Friday, at Al Dirra Ballroom, Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free transport will be provided from the Church from 6 pm. For tickets ring 2439451, Mabuhay or Lords restaurant.

Danish Meeting  
All Danes are invited to the "Fastelavn" party on Feb 12, 1 pm, at the Gazelle Club. For reservations contact Connie 3947693; Karen-Marie — 3946725. Feb 9 is the last date for registration.

ACT  
Any Texans or adopted Texans interested in helping with ACT's March 3 Texas Independence Day Party please contact 5725071; 2528366; 5639204.

ARTS

Tareq Rajab Museum  
The museum is open daily from 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, except Friday, when it is open only in the mornings. A large selection of Islamic artefacts from the Arab and Muslim world are on show.

National Museum  
Modern art paintings by Kuwaiti artist Ahmed Al Mun-ayes are displayed at the National Museum, open from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 6 pm.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players  
Tap dancing auditions (men and women) will be held at the Universal American School at 7.30 pm on Monday, Feb 8, for the play Stepping Out, which will be directed by Ken Winston.

Final casting takes place at the same venue at 3 pm on Feb 11, Thursday. One more outstanding role for an actress who can play the piano. Those interested attend auditions or call Ken Winston — 5385075 or Glenis, producer, 5730641.

## CINEMA

British Council  
The Young Sherlock Holmes and the Pyramid of Fear, a Steven Spielberg production, will be shown on Feb 13/14 at 6.30 pm at the British Council in Mansouriya. Duration: 105 minutes.

Two children's films — Five Go To Mystery Moor and Five Go Off To Camp, based on Enid Blyton's Famous Five books, will be shown at 6 pm on Feb 10 (Wednesday) and at 10.30 am on Feb 11 (Thursday). Duration: 71 minutes.

Admission free but it is advisable to make bookings. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

Films and the Law  
Films and the Law is the title given to an American film festival, which will be held from Feb 13 to 17 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The following films will be shown on: Feb 13: Mr Smith Goes to Washington. Feb 14: Modern Times. Feb 15: The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman. Feb 16: All the King's Men. Feb 17: The Best Man.

All shows begin at 7.30 pm sharp. Children are not allowed inside the auditorium.

The festival has been organised by the American Embassy in tandem with Kuwait Cine Club.

## SPORTS

Ladies Sports Club  
Application forms are available from the Ras Al Ardhi Sea club for the proposed Ladies Sports Club. The Ras Club is open from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 7 pm. Tel: 5740670.

Soccer Team  
A group of young Italians are organising a European soccer team. If you are interested please contact Carlo on Tel: 2445120/1123/4.

## 555 - FIRST CLASS VALUE



Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.



## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

CONSTANT togetherness is fine — but only for Siamese twins — Victoria Billings, US journalist-writer (1945—).

## OPINION

## Let us pray for the success of uprising

LET'S only pray that the youths of Palestine are successful. We should only pray and assist them, leaving those from outside of Palestine to try and prove they were behind the revolution.

We must understand that this is a revolution from inside and that any fighting from outside will return things to the way they were many years ago when the Palestinian action outside of Palestine created about 60 organisations.

The cost of the fighting among these organisations could have had an impact on Israel if it had been spent on a true revolution like the one we see now from inside, the aim of which is to liberate the occupied territories and end the occupation.

This revolution does not aim at achieving false prestige or cashing in on the name of Palestine and the refugee camps. These funds were even spent on forming organisations to kill and collect more funds, at a time when Palestinians were waiting under occupation; waiting, but receiving nothing except false statements and theories from these organisations' leaders.

The number of these organisations at one time totalled over 50, with each one accusing the other of being a traitor. One says Abu Saleh is a traitor, another accuses Abu Saleh of being a traitor and an agent for colonialism and Zionism for the East and the West. A third organisation claims that all others are traitors and it is the only one dedicated to liberating Palestine, even though it is based in Paris, or London, or perhaps Australia. They have been fighting to see who would be the first to enjoy the fruits of liberation.

Today, the home grown Palestine revolution, enters its third month, and up to now they have not announced their real leadership. They have only raised the banners of "Allah is Great" and "Victory or death," besides the Palestinian flag, which has been unseen in Palestine for 40 years.

The Palestinian revolutionaries are undoubtedly disturbed by the struggle of regimes which have taken place and about who should represent the revolution. They are disturbed by the attempts being made to claim responsibility for this revolution by some of the groups.

All these factors are unimportant now. What is really important is that the revolution continues, that it should overthrow the enemy and liberate the lands. Now, we want the lands and not its leadership. We just want to enjoy the fragrance of Palestine and do not want to hear the beat of drums for a leadership based 10,000 miles from Palestine.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

## Bonn-Paris ties rooted in realism

By William Echikson

PARIS: When Francoise Elkouby was growing up in the border town of Strasbourg, she was ashamed because her parents spoke the local German dialect.

Today, she worries because her children don't speak German. "Before it was natural to dislike the Germans. Now, I can't imagine what we would do without them," explains Mrs Elkouby, a Strasbourg town official. "The Germans do their shopping here, they employ thousands of French. We even treat their garbage."

French ties to West Germany are rooted in the realism that their prosperity and peace depend on maintaining good relations. West Germany is France's largest trading partner, and West German security is crucial to France's security.

But a danger lurks in this close identification. The French often are quicker than other West Europeans to worry about West Germany. Their worries centre on one word: neutralism.

Will West Germany, tempted by some offer of reunification with East Germany, break loose from its Western anchor? A neutral, reunited Germany would threaten France, both because of its enormous economic weight and because of its potential military power.

French fears of German neutralism come and go. The fears now are high. French officials argue that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev wants to split the West Germany with disarmament agreements and the promise of closer relations with East Germany.

"The German question isn't something we take as armchair theorising," notes one French diplomat. "There is a strong public opinion within Germany favourable to reunification and neutralism."

Resemblance Just as West Germany's national aspirations conflict with French interests, German economic needs also are different. Last year, the French pleaded with the Germans to hold down their interest rates

and reflate their economy. Unless West Germany helps out, the French cannot stimulate their own economy without sucking in a flood of German imports and creating a balance of trade problem.

"Germany resembles Japan in many ways, with its strong export sector, its strong savings, and its limited domestic needs because of a declining population," notes Georges Valance, an economic analyst at the news-weekly Le Point. "France, by contrast, looks more like the United States, with its dependence on agricultural and arms exports, its low savings rate, and its balance of trade problems."

These differences make for inevitable friction, but some French analysts say the tensions are those of growing intimacy, not breakdown.

Polls show the French prefer the Germans to any of their other neighbours — including the British. When the newspaper Le Monde asked Frenchmen what qualities best describe West Germany, more than three-fourths responded "democratic" and "tolerant." Only two per cent described West Germany as "anti-democratic."

The Germans are looked upon as a standard by which the French judge their own performance. The Le Monde poll showed that while the French perceive the British as economic failures, they associate the Germans with things they admire: hard-work, competitiveness, creativity.

Pushing "The British are insular ... They criticise us all the time," says one French diplomat. "With the Germans we get the feeling that we both are European, that we can work out our problems."

Worried though they are by some West German policies, the French refuse to turn away from their ally. Instead, they are pushing for increased cooperation.

On the economic front, French Finance Minister Edouard Balladur doesn't want to pull France out of the European Monetary System which ties the franc to the mark.

The Christian Science Monitor.



Iran stalls on new offensive

## War a guessing game

By Ed Blanche

BAGHDAD, (AP) — Iran's hesitation in launching a long-anticipated Gulf war offensive is keeping the Iraqis guessing and fueling speculation that Tehran is stalling while it makes diplomatic moves to split Baghdad's Arab supporters.

The absence of a major offensive has also heightened the belief that, despite reports Iran has massed up to 250,000 men on the southern front, Tehran is having difficulties mobilising.

Western military analysts, Iranian dissidents and diplomats estimate that Tehran has mobilised only 100,000 fighters since November.

They believe this means it is unlikely Iran will launch a major thrust against the battered port city of Basra, where the Iraqis have been reinforcing their defences since a major Iranian offensive a year ago that involved more than 250,000 men.

A recent Iranian thrust into the northern Kurdistan mountains widely seen as a diversionary morale-boosting move while Tehran seeks a ceasefire in the so-called "tanker war" in the Gulf.

Iraq air strikes on Iranian oil facilities and tankers off Iran apparently are seriously hitting into Iran's oil exports, its main source of revenue.

Syria, Iran's main Arab ally, is trying to mediate between Tehran and the GCC. But Iraq, Syria's longtime rival, has made it clear it does not want to see Damascus making political capital with the Gulf states while

not achieving an overall Gulf war settlement.

The Iraqis have tried to keep the pot boiling by attacking Iranian tankers, forcing Iran into retaliating against neutral Gulf shipping.

But it is on land that the Iraqis have a 3-1 advantage in manpower. Most analysts believe they have to exploit this advantage if they want to make major military impact.

Analysis sees Iran's failure to launch an offensive, as it has done every winter since 1984, as a sign that Tehran is having problems recruiting sufficient troops.

Factors There are other factors apparently inhibiting Tehran: ● Parliamentary elections are scheduled for April 8.

"After the failure to take Basra last year, no one wants another defeat on their hands right now," one analyst noted. That could mean no significant military move until late spring, well into the winter campaign season when bad weather neutralises Iraq's air and tank superiority.

● Reports that Ayatollah Khomeini, 87, is ailing. Analysts believe this is causing decision-making problems in Tehran.

● Concern that the United Nations Security Council will impose an arms embargo on Iran for its failure to comply with a July 20 ceasefire resolution.

The Iraqis say an embargo will not affect them, claiming they produce much of their own weaponry now.

But some analysts believe that an embargo, even if only partially

effective, could have serious consequences for Iran. By acting restrained, Tehran may be trying to avoid an embargo resolution.

While most analysts rule out a single, all-out offensive, they believe Iran will have to keep up the military pressure with smaller, tactical thrusts.

One likely target is Al Amarah, halfway between Baghdad and Basra. It lies on the fringe of the Howziah marshes, which form a protective barrier north of Basra.

The Shatt Al Arab, the 219-kilometre (137-mile) waterway that runs through Basra, has also been swollen by heavy winter rains and is reported higher than it has been for 30 years.

Defence To counter any Iranian push, the Iraqis have massed an estimated 50 per cent of their million-strong Army in the south. The area around Basra bristles with tanks, missile launchers, heavy artillery and helicopter gunships.

President Saddam Hussein dismissed Chief of Staff Gen. Jawad Thanoon following last year's fighting, when the Iraqis battled into Basra's outskirts before being beaten back, and replaced him with Gen. Nizam Abdul Karim Al Khazraj.

The Iraqis have built a grid of interlocking military roads on raised earthen embankments in the southern region to improve mobility in moving troops to threatened sectors.

They have also extended a formidable 90-kilometre (55-mile) line of fortifications running north from Basra by another 30 kilometres (19 miles).

## Little evidence of glasnost in East Bloc states

By Colin McIntyre

VIENNA, (Reuters) For 200 young East German peace activists arrested last month for trying to latch on to an official parade, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's call for "glasnost", or openness, has a hollow ring.

In Czechoslovakia, while the communist leadership tentatively embraces glasnost and its twin reform "perestroika" (restructuring), the Charter 77 human rights activists continue to be bound by police.

In Poland, regarded as one of East Europe's more open societies, a peaceful demonstration earlier this month in protest against alleged human rights abuses in Romania was snuffed out by security forces in less than a minute.

In Romania itself, there is little sign of liberalisation in the autocratic system run by President Nicolae Ceausescu. Workers who rioted over food shortages last November were quickly rounded up and the ringleaders jailed.

Rejected Ceausescu has openly dismissed the need for glasnost and perestroika, arguing that Romania introduced similar reforms two decades ago and needed merely to perfect these.

Yet there are also signs that Moscow's call for a more open dialogue between different strands of opinion in society is at least gaining a foothold in some of its allies.

In Hungary, which has what is generally regarded as East Europe's most liberal and open regime, there are indications that the once all-embracing Communist Party is prepared to allow a greater role to elected members in government and Parliament.

Even in Czechoslovakia, where a nervous leadership has run a tight regime after crushing the 1968 "Prague Spring" reform of Alexander Dubcek, the security forces allowed a peaceful demonstration on international human rights day to go ahead after it had been officially banned.

The differing and often contradictory responses to Gorbachev's appeal suggest, to diplomats that a struggle is going on in the region between reformers, who see an opening up of the secretive communist system as essential for improved economic performance, and conservatives who fear it will open a Pandora's box of dissent.

Western diplomats believe Moscow is not forcing its allies to rush into reforms, but is prepared to let them go at their own pace provided their economies deliver the goods they have pledged under joint agreements.

Soviet reformers appear to have their own problems at home, where each step forward seems to be matched by a step back.

On the one hand, about 200 political prisoners have been pardoned since last year and emigration, mainly Jewish, has increased eight-fold in the past 12 months.

On the other, many unknown people are still detained in jail or

refused exit visas. Little has been done to free dissidents from psychiatric clinics, and religious education outside the family is still a crime.

An international human rights delegation was allowed to visit Moscow last week to meet Soviet officials, dissidents and unofficial groups. A few hours after most delegates had left the country, police broke up a meeting between two of them and dissidents.

In East Germany, which has been openly reluctant to head down Gorbachev's reformist path, the authorities have cracked down on a small but active peace and human rights movement sheltering under the umbrella of the Protestant church.

Many of the 200 demonstrators detained last month were seeking emigration, and around 60 were shipped to the West. Some other detainees, however, were apparently determined to stay and continue their fight for reforms.

Diplomats in East Berlin saw the authorities' action as an attempt to stamp out growing demands for reforms. Some believed it may have backfired on the authorities by sparking a growing number of well-attended church meetings.

Illegal In Poland, police earlier this week dispersed a demonstration outside the Romanian Embassy and detained at least 50 people, though they were later released.

According to opposition sources, there are 21 political prisoners in Polish jails. The government denies there are any, saying all were found guilty of criminal offences.

Solidarity, the independent trade union that grew out of worker protests in 1980, is still illegal.

But at the same time, in contrast to most other communist countries, there are two significant opposition parties whose members are occasionally harassed by the authorities but whose activities, while regarded as illegal, are tolerated.

The Polish authorities also broke new ground in liberalisation when they announced last month they would introduce an alternative to military service for conscientious objectors, including pacifists and members of religious sects.

Jailed Even in Hungary, with its relatively liberal system, those refusing military service are put in jail for up to three years.

Diplomats in Czechoslovakia have noticed no major changes in official attitudes, though dissidents are no longer routinely sentenced to long prison terms.

Only last month police broke up a meeting of Charter 77 activists after rounding up at least 10 leading members in an effort to block the meeting in a Prague restaurant.

Charter member Vaclav Benda said recently: "The situation is bad, but the people are getting more optimistic. They see the Charter existing for 11 years, and are starting to realise that a courageous stand produces results."

Challenge Proxmire challenged Senate majority leader Lyndon Johnson in 1959, saying he was too dictatorial. Many thought Proxmire's career would be destroyed, but Johnson left to become vice-president in 1961 and Proxmire became chairman of the Senate banking committee and joint economic committee.

Beginning in 1967, Proxmire gave daily Senate speeches urging ratification of the United Nations' treaty banning nuclear war. It was finally approved in 1968.

He has continued his daily speeches and now emphasises the need for arms control and his concern about the US economy. He estimates he has shaken the bands of 100,000 Wisconsin voters a year during his nine state-wide races over 35 years. He had three unsuccessful tries for governor in the early 1950s, before he was elected to the Senate.

Publicity Proxmire is also a genius at getting publicity and has probably issued more press releases than any other senator. He targets them for weekends and holidays when news is slow and he is more likely to get attention.

Jayewardene: turmoil.

Jayewardene, supported by a five-sixths majority in Parliament, imposed drastic changes in the island's administrative and economic policies.

He dismantled import and exchange controls enforced by the previous regime and introduced an open-door economic policy.

Jayewardene also changed the Westminster type parliamentary system of government to an executive presidency on the lines of the French and American patterns.

He assumed the presidency himself in 1978 and was re-elected for a further term of six years at a presidential poll in 1982.

He was criticised for extending the term of Parliament for a further six years by resorting to a referendum in 1982 without holding a general election.

Jayewardene, in politics for 48 years and regarded as South Asia's elder statesman, has to step down from power on Feb 3, 1989.

## Maverick Proxmire calling it a day

By Robert Green

WASHINGTON, (Reuters) After 31 years as a Senate maverick and budget watchdog, William Proxmire is leaving Congress with records few senators will ever match.

The 72-year-old Wisconsin Democrat has cast nearly 10,000 consecutive votes, addressed the Senate every day it has been in session for 21 years, shaken over three million hands in his home state, and been elected six times while spending virtually no money on his campaigns.

He is perhaps best known for his monthly Golden Fleece Awards for wasteful government spending which he started in 1975.

Award recipients range from billion dollar weapons that do not work to government studies on why people fall in love or get angry on the tennis court. "We find that two-thirds of the programmes we cite are either completely discontinued or sharply cut back, so we've saved a lot of money," Proxmire said.

Preference He would almost certainly have been re-elected for another six-year term next November but said he preferred to retire while he was still an effective lawmaker.

"Better to leave too soon, than to stay too long," he said when he announced his retirement plans. He stands out from other senators in many ways including his practice of running eight km (five miles) from his home to the Capitol every day, his well-publicised hair transplant a few years ago and his refusal to take campaign contributions.

"I think I'll miss the Senate very much," Proxmire said in a recent interview. "I love the Senate. It's the best job in the world. I like just about everything about it. There is always something new and different and challenging."

Former Senator Gaylord Nelson, his colleague from Wisconsin for 18 years, said: "His total interest was simply the Senate and politics."

"He was the best vote-getter Wisconsin ever had. He campaigned 365 days a year — 366 days in a leap year."

Proxmire conceded that he often went against Democratic Party leaders and positions. "I've tried to do what I think is right regardless of whether it's the party line position or not," he said.

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## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1554 — Troops under Sir Thomas Wyatt march on London.
- 1793 — Austria and Prussia sign alliance against France.
- 1816 — Simon Bolivar is entrusted by Congress of New Venezuela from Haiti.
- 1831 — Belgian constitution is proclaimed.
- 1920 — Admiral Alexander Kolchak is executed by Soviet communists.
- 1932 — Scandinavian countries, Belgium and the Netherlands agree to economic cooperation.
- 1944 — German forces launch assault on Allies' Anzio bridgehead in World War II.
- 1947 — British proposal for dividing Palestine into Arab and Jewish zones with administration as trusteeship is rejected by UN.
- 1962 — Coal mine explosion in Saarbrücken, Germany, takes lives of 298 miners.
- 1969 — Nigerian planes bomb and strafe crowded market in village in rebellious Biafra, killing more than 200 people.
- 1971 — US Apollo 14 astronauts speed toward splashdown in Pacific Ocean after their visit to moon.
- 1974 — Britain grants independence to small Caribbean island of Grenada.
- 1986 — Haiti's President-for-life Jean-Claude Duvalier goes into exile, ending 29-year family dynasty in that Caribbean republic.
- 1987 — Korean police detain more than 500 people in violent clashes with demonstrators protesting torture death of university student.

Jayewardene



## A unique manifestation of Soviet counterculture

## Hippies survive in Moscow

By Linda Feldmann

MOSCOW: It's three in the afternoon. I ring the doorbell several times, long and loud. After several minutes, a still-half-asleep girl, hair askew, opens the door.

"Hold on a minute, let us get dressed," she says. "Solmi works nights, you know."

Solmi — a sobriquet taken from two notes of the musical scale — is one of Moscow's better-known hippies, or in his own words, "something of an artist, partly a poet, and an entirely tiny bit musician."

The walls of his grimy one-room apartment are covered floor to ceiling with his work — colorful Peter Max-esque can-

vases and collages depicting scenes from other worlds. Works in progress are strewn about the floor. Most amusing is a collage made from the single pages of his internal passport, a document all Soviet citizens over 16 years old must carry. This creation isn't a political statement, Solmi insists.

"I live in Terra Concordia, the land of harmony — that's my cootery," he declares. "Everything you see is my country. It's here and it's there, in the astral. I live there. I'm president of Terra Concordia, therefore I don't need a Soviet passport. Well, of course, I need it as long as I am here — you have to resign yourself to conditions."

By all appearances, this isn't the hallucination of a drug addict. ("I tried all sorts of euphoria," then I got a warning from Above. ...) In fact, aside from the long hair, the beaded "love forever" bracelet (de rigueur for hippies), and the peace symbol plastered on one lens of his sunglasses, the 23-year-old Solmi doesn't look much different from any other Soviet youth. Nor do his apartment mates — Oleg and girlfriend Pelican, the waiflike creature who answered the door.

But they are all part of "the System," the movement of Soviet hippies (in Russian, pronounced HEE-pee) that began 20 years ago in the name of flower power.

It is a small movement — by reported KGB (secret police) estimates, 70,000 people nationwide — and one hardly associated with the kind of mass coconuts and antiwar protests that epitomized American hippiedom. The watchwords are familiar: peace, love, and freedom. In the Soviet context, freedom of expression and freedom to live and travel where one chooses. Hitchhiking is the preferred mode of transportation. Hanging out is a favorite pastime.

Though Solmi insists that hippiness isn't even a movement, "it's a condition of the soul" — the system maintains a distinct identity in the small but visible world of the Soviet counterculture. At any rock concert, hippies are sure to turn up. They frequently gather in apartments for their own, unofficial concerts and art exhibits. Hippie poetry, which Solmi is collecting for an almanac, actively circulates in the hippie underground network. Richard Bach's "Illusions" and Jack Kerouac's "On the Road" are must reading.

Hippie calling cards crop up around Moscow from time to time — the words "Street of Love," for example, painted over an official street sign. In the late '60s, a hippie called

"Red Pants" literally made his name by hanging a giant pair of red Levi Strauss jeans from the "Moscow sign" on one of the main arteries into the city. An accompanying warning, "Filming in progress! Administration of Moscow," left the pants undisturbed for a full month.

Asked to explain the hippie philosophy, Solmi strikes an authoritative pose on his paint-box-turned-stool and holds forth:

"To struggle for peace. It is this kind of struggle. If you don't want war, there won't be war, as John Lennon said."

Coercively, that means refusing military service, which earns most male hippies a stamp of "psychologically unstable" in their military documents. This represents a compromise between hippies and the government: Hippies agree to be labelled crazy and the Army avoids the annoyance in dealing with dissenters. Further, the government can dismiss hippies as abnormal, and, if it wishes, put them away in mental hospitals. Some hippies have reportedly met that fate.

"If an initiative (for peace) is allowed, it is tied into the Komsomol (the Soviet Youth League). I am bitter, because in fact I love my homeland very much," Solmi says. "Now perestroika has begun, and I want to believe that it won't drown in blood, that it will continue, and after a while we will feel democracy, that it will be possible to solve many problems, including the truth of freedom."

In fact, Moscow's hippies have benefited from the easing of cultural restrictions under perestroika. Mikhail Gorbachev's effort to restructure the Soviet system. In July, the relaxed government attitude toward art paved the way for the first official hippie art exhibit. A second exhibit is in the works, though complications threaten it. In August, the government sanctioned for the first time a conference of unofficial groups, the System included.

Still, official suspicion



A group of Moscow hippies hanging out in a bathroom at the city's Manege exhibition hall.

remains. As with any Soviets who live outside the system, hippies are a thorn in the government's side, a phenomenon to be kept in check or at least out of sight. Militiamen reportedly cootie to detain and beat hippies.

One of the biggest hippie-police clashes of recent times took place on Sept. 6, 1986. Word had spread that Soviet television was going to film the hippies hanging out on Arbat Street. Hippie artists decided to exhibit their works to show, Solmi says, "that we're not mooglers, drug addicts, and prostitutes." Hippies turned out in force, 700 of them, with flowers, balloons, children. The paddy wagons were waiting, and when all was done, 300 hippies had been rounded up, many questioned and beaten. The art was confiscated, to be retrieved later with great effort.

Unhappiness Official unhappiness with hippies is backed by a sizable, and growing, conservative strain that resents their unorthodoxy. Young coöservative toughs have flexed their muscles on hippies and other fringe groups. Hippies also engender resentment in more sympathetic circles. At small informal concerts, where performers

meet their expenses by passing the hat, whispers of "beggar" can be heard when hippies have no money to offer.

As with other social phenomena, glasnost (openness) has brought the first press coverage of the System — most of it a "dirty lampoon," Solmi says. The only major reportage to date appeared in September in the Moscow Komsomol paper under the headline "Barroo flowers: imitation hippies — there aren't that many, but they exist."

Parasite "Cao the System be legalised? I don't think so," the writer commented. "The hippies are a movement whose world view differs from ours, whose essence is antisocial and regressive."

The writer treated Solmi with relative kindness, describing him as not a bad sort who fell into the wrong crowd. Other hippies are just parasites who produce nothing — artistic or otherwise — for the social good.

Legally, Solmi is also a "parasite," the term for someone who doesn't hold an official job. When Solmi left for Pskov three years ago to start a commune, he lost his Moscow residency and therefore the

right to work in Moscow. When he returned, his Army colonel stepfather would not renew his residency. Recently his biological father — another "homo-military," in Solmi-speak — set the police on his trail.

What moody do Solmi and his mates live on? "I have no idea," he says. "For 3-1/2 years I've lived on who knows what. And not because I don't want to work. I work every day. I don't sell my paintings; I give them away."

Later it comes out that Solmi's mother pays the rent. Supper rolls around, and the gallons of tea already consumed no longer satisfy. The visitors reluctantly accept an offer of food, and Pelican settles on a pillow in the corner to peel potatoes. When dinner is finally served on a suitcase in the middle of the room, Solmi's oonhippie sister Lena suddenly appears with a sizzling skillet of meat. Where did all this food come from?

"My mother and Solmi's mother help out with the groceries," Pelican admits, to a disapproving glance from Solmi.

No! all Soviet hippies survive this way. Some do sell their paintings and bandierats. Some work as street cleaners or

watchmen. Many are students.

And, of course, the System takes care of its own. When Oleg, the only hippie in Doepetrovsk, arrived in Moscow a few months ago to start a band, Solmi took him in. Solmi seems to relish his role as a friend of the downrodden and dispenser of great truths.

"Soviet bureaucracy is the most gigantic bureaucracy in the world," he declares. "The world needs love!"

Would you rather there were no government at all? he is asked. Oleg, the disciple, chimes in: "We want our government to take the form that was planned from the beginning. Read the works of Lenin. His decisions would have led to a system deserving respect and attention."

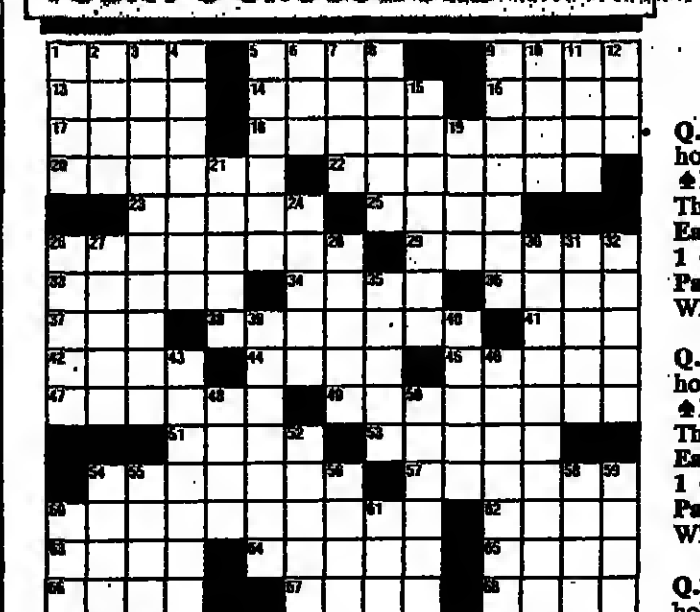
For Solmi, the litmus test of perestroika is his campaign to establish an official Street of Love.

"We have Electricity Lane and Ball Bearing Street. It's getting terrifying. Where are we heading? To Godless Lane, and Communism eul-de-sac?"

"I really want to build a Street of Love, where repression is impossible. That would be a step toward democracy."

The Christian Science Monitor.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD

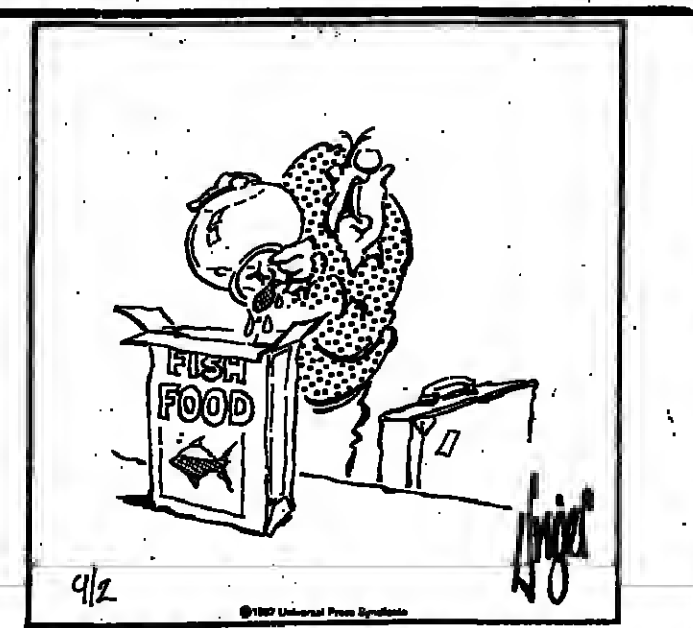


- ACROSS**
- Feeler
  - Seadog's potation
  - Verge
  - Above, in Augsburg
  - Architectural order
  - Locale for Mrs. Leonowens
  - Western lily
  - Tower of London warders
  - Heaters
  - Mason's Della et al.
  - Island in the Cyclades
  - Father
  - Colleagues
  - Without complications
  - Metallic disk
  - Angel's reward?
  - Earth
  - Pismire
  - Certain physicist
  - Baseball stat.
  - Youskevitch of ballet fame
  - Iridescent stone
  - Backpacked
  - Lack of maturity
  - Take after
  - Special performance
  - Networks
  - Part of a series
  - A sodium carbonate
  - Diplomas
  - virumque cano: "Aeneid" opening
  - Possessed
  - Miss Thompson
  - Volunteer State
  - Abbr.
  - A piece of cake!
  - Forward
  - Author-director Kazan
- DOWN**
- "In-Boots"
  - Encourage
  - Type of sleeve or sail
  - Supply
  - Girl
  - Lobster coral
  - Wallet items
  - Talents
  - Regards highly
  - Watch one's weight
  - Needlefish
  - River to the North Sea
  - Moderate reds
  - Air: Prefix
  - Daughter of Juan Carlos
  - Sharpen
  - Country of 21 Down
  - Latin dance
  - Laye's island neighbor
  - Politico's patronage
  - Defamatory statement
  - Curtail
  - More contemptible
  - Like most sandals
  - Greek letter
  - Describing a certain Andy
  - Copy
  - Large umbrella
  - Felt
  - Singer Paul and family
  - Strawberry's field
  - Lampreys
  - Neap or ebb
  - Atlanta arena
  - Novel by Zola
  - Haggard title
  - Writer Anals
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**
- ACTS ADAR HARK  
TURIN PELE IYAN  
TRIGO ACTO NERO  
SIGHTORAPT DRAW  
ASTRO LEONS  
EPIC PRIMES  
OLAF EOLT AGENT  
MILO SOFAS HIDE  
EVERS LILT TROT  
RECESS CLAM  
SELMA FARES  
MINI OUTOF SIGHT  
AGOG PRIM TORAH  
ROTH EROS STELE  
TRET OANK STEM

## ROBEN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠KJ95 ♥AQ63 ♦K103 ♣76  
The bidding has proceeded:  
East South West North  
1 ♠ Dbl Pass 1 ♠  
Pass?  
What action do you take?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠KQ83 ♥AQ9 ♦AK87 ♣76  
The bidding has proceeded:  
East South West North  
1 ♠ Dbl Pass 1 ♠  
Pass?  
What do you bid now?
- Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠KQ95 ♥3 ♦832 ♣K10952  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 2 NT 3 NT 4 ♠  
What action do you take?
- Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**  
♠AQ6 ♥AJ5 ♦A10 ♣J9652  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 NT Pass 2 NT Pass?  
What action do you take?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠A83 ♥K ♦KQ63 ♣QJ542  
Partner opens the bidding with three hearts. What action do you take?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**  
♠873 ♥95 ♦AQ10542 ♣94  
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?



"I'll just let them help themselves."



## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**  
You will be better able to express yourself. You should endeavor not to take on any additional commitments just now.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**  
You will tend to be a little nervous and impatient and should try to take it easy. Do not say anything you know well you do not mean. Make sure you put your family first, your personal welfare second.
- Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)**  
You will be able to regain your confidence. Try not to think of work today, but do not let your sight of your objectives. Ensure you eat a good diet. Be resilient.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**  
For the greater part of the day all will go like a house on fire. You should not try to hide the truth, not even from yourself. Avoid all kinds of exaggerations and distortions. Be aware of your limitations.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**  
Not everything will be quite as you would wish it to be, but you will be able to manage. You should seek to see the funny side. Try not to get into an argument. Be more tidy.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)**  
You should make sure you get enough rest, but you should not linger too long in bed. Once you have made up your mind be prepared to change it in the light of new circumstances only.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**  
You should not be too hard on someone who was only doing his duty. Try to avoid getting into any sort of argument. Nor should you participate in gossip particularly if it is malicious. Be selective.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**  
You should try to concentrate on what you are best at. Do not be too fond of the sound of your own voice. Avoid buying anything you do not really want just because it is relatively cheap. Be conclusive.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**  
If you are beginning to put on weight, now is the time to eat and drink a little less. You will be more persuasive, but remember that charm will not get you everywhere.
- Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)**  
You should not waste effort on something that is obviously not going to work. If you keep calm things will improve. Do not let others steal your glory. Be sincere.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**  
Today you will be able to do something a little out of the ordinary. In addition to thinking about what you like give some thought to what your partner likes. Avoid trying to sweep things under the carpet.
- Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)**  
You will be a little unsure of yourself and should try to postpone having to make a big decision. There is no need to feel sorry for yourself. You should try to exercise a little more self-control. Be generous.



SNIPPETS

Media welcome ban on domestics

THE ban on placement of Filipino maids overseas has been welcomed by the media in the Philippines. An editorial in the Manila Bulletin said: "It did not really take long for the administration to act firmly (after) complaints of maltreatment of Filipino domestic helpers working abroad."

"Once established, the administration decided to suspend the placement of the helpers until stricter measures for their protection have been adopted."

Dogs sniff way into airport

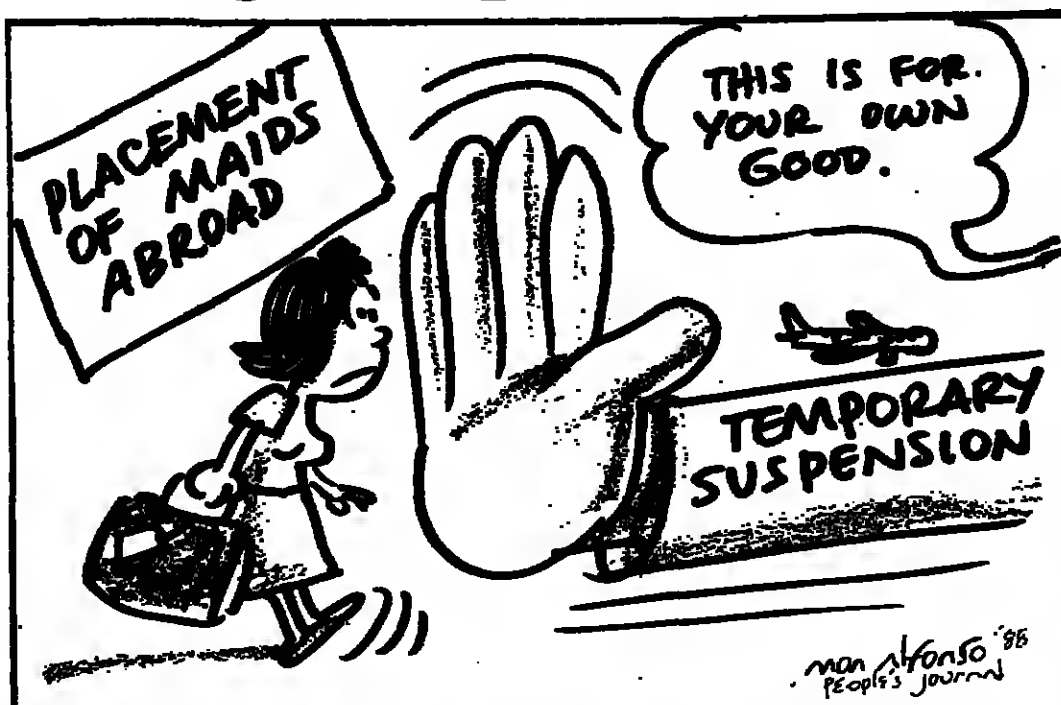
WHEN stray dogs and cats roam the streets, it's all right. But when they sniff their way into airports and get in the way of big airplanes, something must be terribly wrong. Recently the Calapan Airport in Mindanao was closed by the Air Transportation Office (ATO) after pilots reported stray animals crossing their path.

Performers summoned

FILM actress Alma Moreno and TV host German Moreno were recently summoned by the Bureau of Internal Revenue for allegedly refusing to show their accounts. The Bureau is reportedly planning to summon 60 film and television personalities, including Christopher de Leon, Dolphy, Max Alvarado and Pilar Pilapil.

Critics slam government policy

Aquino ban on domestics infringes on personal rights



PRESIDENT Aquino's plan to temporarily ban Filipinos from working abroad as domestics could harm the country's economy and infringe on personal rights, critics said.

"It will do more harm than good, they said. 'The government's declaration of a ban does not solve the problem of massive migration of Filipinos abroad,' said Jorge Tigno, executive director of the Friends of Filipino Migrant Workers (KAIBIGAN)."

The Aquino Cabinet approved the temporary ban proposed by the labour department to protect Philippine women from abuse such as sexual attacks and molestation and withheld salaries, according to government officials.

Tigno said the government was not offering alternative employment. He added that hundreds of women may violate the

ban, opening them to more abuse by foreign employers since they are not entitled to government protection.

He said the solution will be to generate more employment in the country so that Filipinos will not be forced to leave.

Aides said Aquino will soon announce when the ban will become effective. Rep. Ma. Consuelo Puyat Reyes, however, lauded the ban, saying that "it is high time that we put our foot down" on sexual and physical abuses, unfair wages and deplorable working conditions that Filipino domestic helpers have to endure abroad.

She said she is willing to sponsor a bill in Congress to curb abuses against domestics by local recruiters.

Labour officials said 82,000 Filipinas, many with university degrees, apply for jobs as domestics abroad due to a lack of well-

paying jobs here.

Most of them end up in the Middle East, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Singapore.

Filipino domestics abroad suffer from various forms of exploitation and discrimination, ranging from contract violations to rape, said Cynthia Tellez, executive director of the Hoog Koo-g-based Mission for Migrant Filipinos.

Estimated

In Singapore, some 15,000 to 16,000 Filipino maids have to undergo pregnancy tests every six months and are prohibited from marrying Singaporeans, she said.

Hong Kong law requires its estimated 35,000 Filipino domestic helpers to have an individual work contract with their employer specifying salaries, holidays and other work conditions.

Female senator pushes for absolute divorce

By Nina Valera

ABSOLUTE divorce may still be included in the Family Code signed into law by President Aquino on July 6, 1987 and to be enforced in August this year.

In a recent Senate hearing on the Family Code by the Committee on Women and Family Relations headed by Senator Santanina Rasul, the amendment of the code to include absolute divorce drew two separate reactions from several sectors of society including the clergy.

While legal separation and the grounds for it have been expanded reducing, if not entirely obliterating its bias against women — now infidelity is a common ground for both parties instead of concubinage for the male and infidelity for the female in the old civil code — legal separation, which the Family Code allows still does not free a couple from each other's bondage.

"Legal separation for a marriage that has broken down is not adequate," said lawyer

Yoland Javellana of the Women's Lawyers' Circle (WILCI). "To err is human," Javellana said, "and in the case of a broken marriage, the only remedy is to wipe the slate clean (for both the husband and the wife)."

Father Ruben Tanseco of the Centre for Family Ministries of the Loyola House of Studies at the Ateneo de Manila, said the "Filipino family system is still stable and healthy as a whole."

Broken marriages in the Philippines, Fr. Tanseco said, is still a minority in the society, and social legislation must not legislate for the minority to the detriment of the common good.

Supporters of the divorce law, he said, should prove that such a law would improve the quality and stability of family life in this country.

Ironically, even the Civil Code committee that formulated the Family Code had been divided on the issue of absolute divorce.

Committee chairman Justice Jose Reyes said that the women

members favoured divorce, but the men opposed the idea.

"Could it be that men are more insecure?" Sen. Rasul ventured a guess when asked after the hearing why the committee members could not settle the divorce bill issue.

Rasul, a Muslim, whose customs include absolute divorce, said that their divorce laws are not that easy to invoke, contrary to popular belief.

Asked if she herself were in favour of a divorce bill, Rasul, a happily married mother of six children, turned pragmatic and said, "There should be laws to protect all our rights. My being a Muslim does not enter the picture here."

But barring society's hypocrisy that clings to family solidarity, religious cohesiveness and morals showed down the throats of a people colonised by bigoted Catholics, and despite what Rasul said about men's insecurity that may be reinforced by absolute divorce, the bottom line is simple economics.

Accord reached on entertainers

JAPANESE and Filipino officials have agreed to jointly stop the illegal deployment of entertainers in Japan by unlicensed and unaccredited agencies, the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) said.

The agreement was reached during talks between officials of the Japanese embassy and the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) of four POEA proposals affecting Japan-bound Filipino entertainers.

Labour Secretary Franklin M. Drilon said the Japanese accepted two proposals which would greatly help the POEA in safeguarding the entertainers' welfare.

Drilon said the Japanese agreed to accept visa applications only after their contracts have been processed by the POEA, and when the visa applications are filed only by POEA accredited agencies.

"The implementing guidelines of these two measures are now being prepared," Drilon said.

He said the proposal that will require the Japanese immigration office to translate in English the visa permit of entertainers is under study.

Frequently, Drilon said, the language barrier is used by unscrupulous recruiters to confuse entertainers on the terms and conditions of their stay in Japan.

Drilon said the implementation of the new measures will result in tighter controls in the processing and deployment of entertainers in Japan.

Meanwhile, Drilon appealed to the private sector to help reverse the bias for overseas employment, saying that "nothing is sadder than to see our best and brightest workers use their expertise for the development of other countries."

Drilon sought the participation of the private sector in the country's employment programme as laid down by President Aquino during the first cabinet meeting in 1986.

Addressing the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAF) during its general membership meeting at the "Manila Garden Hotel," Drilon said that "social investment is good business" and that "continuing industrial peace is possible if it is mutually desired."

He said the private sector should have more community-based job-generating projects as a way of returning some of the profits which they earned through the community's patronage of their products.

"By social investment, I mean bringing back into the communities that host you or your employees some of the profits that come about as a result of community support and patronage," Drilon said.

He cited low-cost housing for workers, which would have multiplier effect, and providing marketing and technical expertise to small artisans as examples of social investment. (E.T. Suarez).

New witness on Ninoy murder

By Rey G. Panaligan

TANODDABAYAN Raul M. Gonzalez said that a Filipino now residing in the United States has signified his intention to testify in the retrial of the Aquino-Galman murder case and give "a shocking revelation of the details of the Aquino assassination."

Gonzalez did not identify the prospective witness.

The Filipino who offered to testify wrote a letter to Gonzalez requesting a safe conduct pass.

The Filipino claimed that he was present in one of the meetings of the "Kil Aquino" plot-

of moosey to Rolando Galman, the military-tagged assassin of Aquino at the Gloria Maris Restaurant at the Cultural Center of the Philippines complex on Roxas Blvd. in Pasay City.

He claimed that present during the pay-off was a representative of former First Lady Imelda Marcos, a soldier, and a civilian official.

Gonzalez was skeptical about the credibility of the letter writer. But he said he is willing to give him a safe conduct pass after his credibility has been established.

"You know only rebels or fugitives ask for safe conduct passes," Gonzalez said.

Meanwhile, American jour-

nalist Sandra Burton continued her testimony before the Sandiganbayan that hauled the retrial of the two murder cases.

She was cross examined by defence lawyers led by Rodolfo U. Jimenez.

Jimenez raised the possibility that the micro cassette tape recording of the sounds and voices during the last ten seconds before Aquino was shot on Aug 21, 1983, could have been tampered with.

Jimenez said that doubts lingered on his mind after Burton admitted that she did not put any identifying mark on her cassette tape turned over to the Agrava board.

Sports columnists pick De Vega as Athlete of the Year

Top honours for Golden Girl

IT was an evening that bridged the glory of sports in the past and the glitter of its present — a trip in time from the 1936 Berlin Olympics to the 1987 South-East Asia Games in Jakarta.

The past was former Senator Ambrosio (Paddy) Padilla, now in his 70's but still spry, a member of the Philippine Basketball team that came in fifth in the Berlin Olympics for the highest finish ever by a Philippine quintet in the sports quadrennial.

The present? Who else but Philippine track's golden girl, that female speed marvel from Meycauayan, Bulacan, "Tatang's" girl Lydia de Vega.

The occasion was the second annual awards night of the Sports Columnists Organisation of the Philippines (SCOOP) held last weekend at the grand ballroom of the Inter-Continental Hotel in Makati.

"Diyay" and "Paddy" led the



Super track star Lydia de Vega receives her trophy for the second year running.

main and special awarders at the Saturday night toast of SCOOP for those who distinguished themselves in sports year '87 and those who have contributed their share in the making of Philippine sports lore.

De Vega won acclaim as the sports columnists' pick as "Athlete of the Year" with her triple

gold medal-winning feat in the SEA games in Jakarta.

It was De Vega's second time to be cited for her Jakarta performance, but this time around, she had centre-stage all by herself. In the PDA awards, she had to share it with swimmer Eric Buhan, the most bemuddled athlete in the Jakarta games.

Banks and investors shying away from agricultural ventures

Land reforms shrouded in controversy

THE economic impact of much-touted land reforms in the largely agricultural Philippines is shrouded in the dust of controversy kicked up by the programme's political implications.

Land reform, or the breakup of large estates in favour of the landless peasantry, has been a catchword of successive governments, but once has managed to break centuries-old poverty and feudal bondage in the countryside.

Officials estimate that there are 9.7 million hectares of agricultural land to be divided among 10 million farmers.

Conservative land-owners charge that a radical reform policy will destabilise crop production due to the breakup of large estates and the loss of economies of scale and management expertise for the sake of piecemeal ownership.

Warned

Backers of sweeping land reform in turn say it is the only way to free the 70 percent of the population who live off the land from centuries of poverty and bondage to the handful of families that own vast plantations.

Both sides have warned of more unrest if their demands are not met.

President Corason Aquino's government is conspicuously trying to maintain a centrist position, promising to free the peasantry while protecting landowners' rights and insulating the economy from any disruption, observers said.

Mrs Aquino recently displayed her determination to launch land reform by vowing to break up her family's 6,100-hectare Hacienda Luisita in Tarlac.

The announcement came on the first anniversary of the Mendiola massacre of 13 peasants, workers and sympathisers demonstrating for land reform, and on the eve of this year's first session of Congress. Congressional leaders have vowed to make land reform a top priority.

Senate land reform committee chairman Heherson Alvarez said that the Upper House is likely to pass a land reform bill by March.

A bill filed by Alvarez, a former agrarian reform secretary, allows for flexible limits on the amount of land that can be retained by its owners.

Widely seen as the bill likely to be passed, it sets retention

limits depending on the type of crop, and allows for stock ownership of corporate farms — whereby such farms are allowed to remain intact, with tenants given shares of stock — as an alternative to physical redistribution.

The rationale behind stock ownership is that modern, mechanised farms will suffer if carved up among too many farmers.

The provisions are apparent concessions to crop producers who have been demanding a higher retention limit and businessmen who fear the loss of huge investments if profitable agro-business ventures are broken up, observers said.

The Left, which has long charged that a Congress dominated by landed gentry will not enact comprehensive land reform, has attacked Alvarez' bill, charging that it allows landowners to cir-

cumvent redistribution.

Landowners like to cite statistics showing that each farmer would get less than a hectare if equality was the rule.

But the Department of Agrarian Reform has said that it is possible for a peasant family to make a living on less than a hectare of land, provided it is irrigated and backed with necessary agricultural inputs.

As lawmakers and citizens debate various land reform bills, the government has yet to find funding for a programme estimated to cost at least P146 billion over the next 10 years.

Most of the money will be used to compensate landown-

ers and provide farm inputs and training for the beneficiaries.

Many landowners admit that their objections to land reform would vanish if the government offered them full and immediate cash compensation.

Under the proposed programme, full repayment would take at least 10 years and many are skeptical that the government will meet even this target.

As Congress dallies, banks and investors are shying away from agricultural ventures for fear that land reform will kill their businesses while peasants backed by leftwing groups are occupying and cultivating government and private land, unwilling to wait any longer for the promise of land reform.

Aquino stops birthday fun

PRESIDENT Aquino chastised government agencies for wishing her a happy 55th birthday in television and newspaper advertisements, saying it was wrong to spend public funds for such purposes.

Ms Aquino, who celebrated her birthday Monday with the urban poor of Sapang Palay, expressed her displeasure over the ads at a meeting of her Cabinet's economic committee.

"Public funds should never be

used for personal aggrandisement of public officials," Deputy Press Secretary Danilo Gozo quoted Ms Aquino as saying.

Gozo told reporters that Ms Aquino did not want to continue the practice which was common during the 20-year rule of ousted President Marcos.

Admonished  
The President admonished all government heads of departments, agencies and corpora-

tions to henceforth desist from printing birthday greeting for her," Gozo said.

The "erring" agencies include the Department of Labour, Bureau of Customs, Government Service Insurance System, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Laguna Lake Development Authority, Sugar Regulatory Administration, and the Food Terminal Inc.

Gozo added that "reprimand" letters have already been sent to "those who sponsored the paid ads."

Impeached

He quoted Ms Aquino as saying: "If I am not impeached, I will still have four more birthdays to go. Don't place the ads." Her term ends in 1992.

Last week, opposition leaders urged Congress to impeach the President for favouring Fidel V. Ramos as defence secretary without congressional approval.

Cabinet appointments are subject to approval by the Commission on Appointments, a 25-man joint congressional body. But Congress was not in session when Ms Aquino appointed Ramos to succeed Rafael Ilo.

Gozo said Ms Aquino cannot prevent private corporations and individuals for greeting her through paid advertisements.

"That's not public funds any more," he said. "She cannot do anything about that."

Revealed: secret talks with Gringo

THE government of Mrs Aquino held secret negotiations with rebel military officers involved in the bloody Aug 28 coup attempt and the talks were held in the same townhouse in Valle Verde in Pasig where renegade Lt Col Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan was later captured.

This was revealed to the Senate committee on defence and security by a putschist leader who acted as a go-between to the failed talks.

Lt Col Reynaldo Berroya, who surrendered before the Nov 30 government deadline, surfaced yesterday and revealed details of the secret talks with the rebel officers, led by Honasan and Navy Capt. Felix Turlingao.

Berroya testified behind closed doors for two-and-a-half hours before members of the Senate committee at the Navy headquarters.

Sen. Ernesto Maceda, the committee chairman, quoted Berroya as saying Fioacoe Secretary Vincent Jayme was the government negotiator while Honasan and Turlingao represented the rebel soldiers.



Top recruiter reveals his strategy

Demand for Filipino nurses in USA

A FILIPINO US nurse recruiter, who has witnessed the low and high of the US nursing shortage, has remained unperturbed by the on-going stiff competition in the US nurses job market.

Frony C. Fortich, general manager and president of Gulf Pacific Services and Trading Corp., an unassuming executive carefully draws his game plan to hire at least 30 to 40 per cent of the actual supply of CGFNS and US licensed nurses available in the Philippines, for his US hospital clinics.

The visa qualifying tests conducted by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, are given twice a year, in April and in October. The results are released in early June and December. Right after the release of the results, a flurry of paid advertisements appears in the daily newspapers, particularly the Manila Bulletin making all sorts of offers to the lucky CGFNS passers.

Fortich said every US hospital is fighting hard to get Filipino CGFNS nurses but they don't worry about diminishing the

supply of qualified RNs in the Philippines.

As the leading recruiter of US-bound nurses, Fortich launched a two-pronged programme to increase qualified nurses supply in the country. His first step was to cut ties with US placement agencies and deal direct with the US hospitals in order to convert the financial resources of these facilities to the conduct of free CGFNS review classes for nurses taking the exams.

What seems to be the trade secret behind his success in getting CGFNS nurses, a consistent top recruiter for several years now?

While US-based recruiters come to Manila during June and December, Fortich's presence in the Philippines throughout the whole year assures nurses of complete information and services, while they are still here in the Philippines.

"We have a package information on how nurses go through the tests, we prepare and evaluate them for the tests, and we give them proper support, all for free."

"Our corporate thrust is to

place our nurses in a cluster of states, well manageable for our nursing consultants and coordinator to visit and attend to their immediate needs especially during the first few months of their stay in the USA," Fortich pointed out. Having stayed in the USA for 10 years, he could easily speak with authority on the nurses job market.

"We have pinpointed the magnet states as New Jersey, Massachusetts and Connecticut. A lot of Filipino doctors, nurses and professionals are working and living in these areas. By placing Filipino nurses in these states, they would be in the company of these Filipino-Americans, rather than isolate them in places, where they would be the first Filipino residents," Fortich added.

"By placing them in a cluster of states, their needs could be well attended rather than spread out to several states. It's impossible to cover," he pointed out.

Almost all hospitals, offer uniform benefits, however, he cautioned, nurses must realise the big difference between those offering assistance in finding

apartments and the Gulf Pacific guarantee of free rentals for 3 months.

"We ask our client hospitals, to lease furnished apartments, and to pay the nurses rentals for housing and utilities for at least 3 months. This way, the nurses are freed from the hassles of paying advance deposits, and also for utilities and buying the so-called pots and pans and other furnishings. When all of these things are totalled up, Gulf Pacific hospitals spend about \$2,000.

In addition, the hospitals will also advance two weeks pay-check of not less than \$500." The nurses are not given the run-around because Gulf Pacific talks direct with the hospital instead of third parties," or US agents. "What about New York," Fortich was asked.

Before the shortage worsened when only some states would take in Filipino nurses, the New York hospitals were the biggest employers of nurses. Our concern at that time was to provide our nurses with job placements in hospitals instead of nursing homes, New York Hospitals, he emphasised answered the need.

ARAB TIMES



## Mars: the next great frontier

## Superpowers battle for giant leap in space

By David Blundy

AS the Soviet Union celebrated another great leap in space the US astronauts failed for the second year running to take even one small step. They now face the prospect of another year with their feet firmly on the ground at the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida.

The latest Soviet space hero, Yuri Romanenko, parachuted to earth after 11 months in weightless orbit. Two more Soviet astronauts will soon hurtle through the earth's atmosphere to spend a year in MIR, the Russian space station.

Meanwhile, US scientists were on the ground and knees in the rocket of the shuttle examining the boot ring of the booster nozzle. It had failed during a test.

The shuttle, first launched in 1981, has not flown since January 28, 1986 when, only 73 seconds into flight, it exploded

killing its seven crew, six astronauts and a schoolteacher. The next launch will be postponed until August at the earliest.

The National Research Council, which acts as a watchdog over the shuttle programme, believes even that might be too soon. It is urging the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) not to rush the launch and to carry out more frequent and stringent tests of components.

## Failure

Through the combination of technical failure, lack of funds and political will, the US has fallen far behind the Soviet Union in the space race. The Soviets, with computers and technology almost a decade behind the Americans, have "an almost frightening lead," according to Jane's Spaceflight Directory.

The Soviets have a taxi rank of vintage rockets, based on the technology of the early 1960s,

to send their astronauts and satellites into space. They are crude, but unlike the sophisticated shuttle, they work.

The Soviet Union has two orbiting space stations and they are working on an unmanned mission to Mars with their sights on putting a man on the planet early in the next century. It will be a three-year round trip. Their astronauts are treated like rock stars and their accomplishments, publicly applauded.

The US space programme is epitomised by the Hubble Space Telescope. The telescope should have spent the last 18 months in orbit, gazing further into space — as far as 14 billion light years away — than man has done before.

In fact, it stands wrapped in silver space blankets in a giant warehouse in California. The air is changed every 90 seconds and giant fans protect it from grains of dust. Like the Pentagon's new spy satellite, the

Hubble telescope is waiting for the shuttle.

It will be at least seven years before the US can put a space station into orbit, and funding for the station was cut by almost half this fiscal year from \$767 million (\$408 million) to \$425 million.

## Programme

The space programme has turned into a litany of failure. The unmanned satellite launching rocket failed two launches and was grounded for a year. There were problems with the Delta rocket. The Atlas Centaur rocket was hit by lightning last March and was then destroyed by ground control.

After the shuttle disaster President Reagan promised: "This is not the end. So what went wrong?"

Mr Robert Seamans, chairman of the National Academy of Sciences committee that reviewed the space station, blames the US malaise on a lack of enthusiasm at the White

House.

Senator Donald Riegle, chairman of a space subcommittee, said: "The US has no space policy." Members of Congress and space experts complain that the White House has failed to give adequate support. They criticise the administration of Nasa and say space policy is bogged down in committees, reviews and inter-agency battles.

"Nasa is foundering under the worst management crisis in its history," said Donald Fink, the editor of Aviation Week and Space Technology.

A study by the astronaut, Sally Ride, said that the Administration had failed to support basic research. "We need to be starting the technology development at a serious pace within the next year or two," she said, giving warning that it could be well beyond the year 2000 before the US could send astronauts to the moon again, or to Mars.

A consultant at the National

Research Council said one of the main reasons for the President's lack of enthusiasm is that space exploration had been a steady anti-climax since the moon landing nearly 20 years ago.

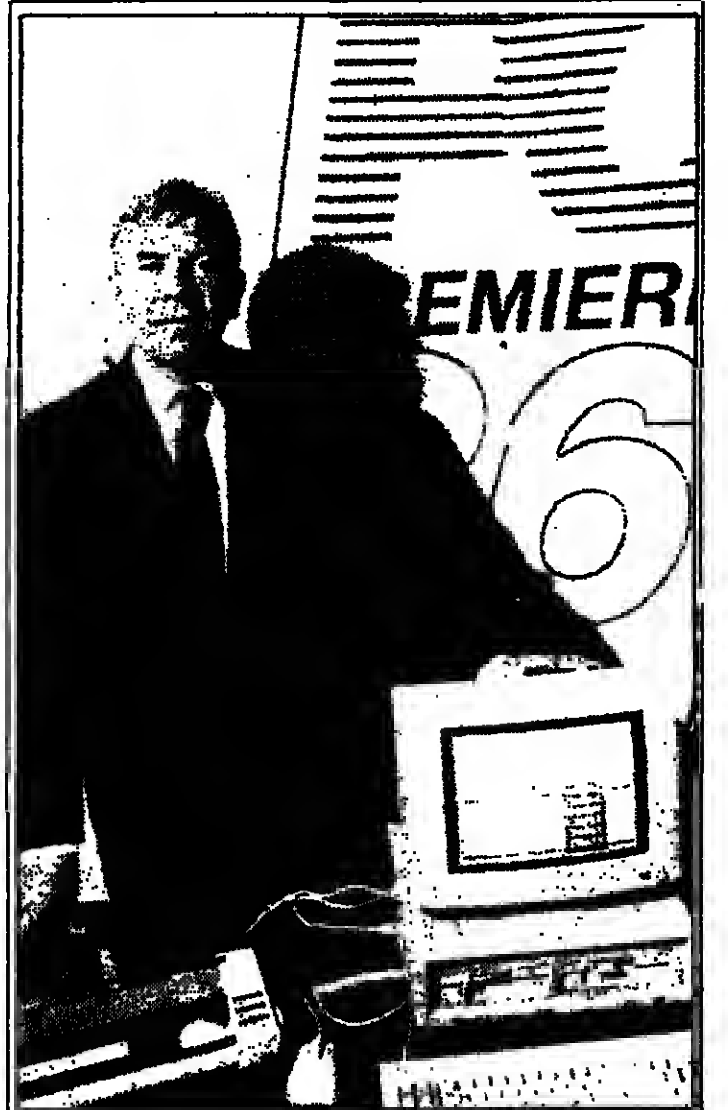
## Boring

"People find space boring," he said. "We need to put some excitement back into space exploration." The orbiting space station could revive flagging interests. Scientists propose a permanent, manned space station on the dark side of the moon.

But the experts are casting doubt on the whole manned flight programme. They argue that remote controlled instruments can do most jobs better than human beings. "Manned flight is costly and mostly propaganda," said the National Research Council consultant.

"Manned space flight is ruinously expensive — about 10 times as costly as unmanned flight. For virtually any specific mission that can be identified in space an unmanned space craft can be built to conduct it more cheaply and more reliably. Mr Alex Roland, a former Nasa historian said. "Why does Nasa cling to the idea of manned flight? Robots, the argument goes, lack the sex appeal of astronauts."

Soviet and US astronauts all want to go to Mars, the next great frontier. "But what do they do when they get there?" said a US space expert. "What happens if they have appendicitis during the three-year trip? What about solar radiation? It really is a waste of time and money."



## Computer with memory of 10,000 characters

Bernard Schneider is pictured above with his new personal computer. His German-made model was designed, he said at the Orgatechnik trade fair in Cologne, Federal Republic of Germany, to meet special market demand. The computer has a memory of 10,000 characters. Exhibitors from 67 countries attended the Cologne office trades fair.

For once, India is playing true to the melody and tune in one of the most advanced fields of modern technology. Indian scientists are imitating the latest experiments now being conducted in this wonder technology which, when realised, will put the collective inventions of the electric bulb, the transistor and the television to shame.

By G.S. Mudur

THE 92-member team which set sail from Goa, aboard the "Thalanda" on November 25, 1987, is the seventh Indian expedition to the Ice Continent, and also the largest contingent sent so far from India in the last five years. The scientists among the team members have begun gearing themselves for another year of research in fields ranging from geology, geophysics, meteorology and geochemistry to the study of living and non-living resources on the continent as well as in the surrounding seas.

India joined the select band of nations exploring the continent with its first expedition in January 1982. Since then, there has been an expedition every year. In 1984 during the third expedition, was set up its first permanent research station on Antarctica — Dakshin Gangotri.

India achieved the status of a consultative party with the signing of the Antarctic Treaty in August 1983, in less than two years of its first expedition. In October 1984, it was admitted as a member of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

The objective of the Indian Antarctic Programme has been to promote studies on the continent covering four broad areas — atmospheric sciences, earth sciences, marine sciences and Antarctic biology. Team members are drawn up from different scientific institutions, research centres and government departments in the country such as the Department of Ocean Development, the National Institute of Oceanography, the Indian Metro-

## Indian scientists explore Antarctic



Dr Aditi Parikh and Dr Sudipta Sengupta, two members of the third Antarctic expedition.

logical Department and the Geological Survey of India.

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has been an integral part of all Antarctic expeditions. The IMD programme on Antarctica, besides providing support services during the expedition, involves the study of weather conditions and other atmospheric phenomena on the continent. Of key interest to IMD scientists is the manner in which Antarctic weather affects the weather in India. These "teleconnections" can sometimes be used to predict specific phenomena like the monsoon. With the aid of a manned IMD observatory at Dakshin Gangotri, continuous feedback of weather data has been available for the past five years.

During spring time every year, a gaping hole appears in the ozone layer of the stratosphere above Antarctica. In 1986, IMD joined the "investigation programme" to study this strange and puzzling phen-

omenon and installed a sophisticated instrument called the Dobson's spectrophotometer at Dakshin Gangotri. The programme will be continued during the seventh mission after which two IMD scientists will stay behind for the coming winter and the next spring.

## Probe

Using the latest in geophysical techniques, Indian earth scientists have also initiated a series of studies to probe the ground of the ice continent. Many of these studies are directed to assess the mineral potential of Antarctica. For instance, Indian geophysicists have conducted several experiments over the ice shelf near Dakshin Gangotri and on an "oasis" called the Schirmacher range about 90 km from Dakshin Gangotri.

On Antarctica, with most of the continent covered by ice, a white desert with exposed rocks and not covered by ice is called an oasis. Electromagnetic

studies are being conducted over the ice shelf, as also geoelectric investigations on the rocky terrain of the oasis.

The scientists have of late, gone into the interior of the continent to study a range of mountains called the Wolthat ranges — one of the tallest on the continent, with many peaks reaching heights of several hundred metres. Geological mapping and mineral investigations have also been conducted on the Gruber Massif of the eastern Wolthat ranges over an area of about 750 sq km.

During the seventh expedition, air-borne magnetic surveys will be undertaken by the Indian scientists for the first time. The surveys will be conducted with the help of Indian "Chetak" helicopters.

As for research on living resources, scientists are now engaged in collecting mosses, lichens, algae and several forms of microorganisms for studies in primitive life forms. Nearly 40 species of exotic Antarctic

bacteria were brought by a biologist from Antarctica for investigations at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.

A shrimp-like organism, "krill" is found abundantly in the waters of the continent. Indian marine scientists have made attempts to understand the role of krill in the marine ecosystem and identify special areas where harvestable krill are abundant. Studies are also under way to determine the distribution and abundance of zooplanktons in the waters of the Antarctic Ocean.

The seventh expedition will also initiate the construction of a second Indian research station, about 80 km from Dakshin Gangotri. Unlike Dakshin Gangotri, which is on an ice shelf, the second station will be on exposed land. The station will make the Schirmacher and Wolthat ranges — where most of the current Indian geological investigations are underway — more accessible.

## Research on ozone layer

BREMERHAVEN (DaD): West German research vessel "Polarstern", recently returned from an expedition to the Arctic, is going off to the Antarctic for the sixth time, where she will remain for a few months.

The ship, a giant floating laboratory, will have on board 150 scientists from the Federal Republic and seven other states, including Chile, for extensive research into the ocean, pack-ice and climate. Research will concentrate on the ozone layer above the earth. Its decay over the Arctic will be studied under the direction of the Bremerhaven-based Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Ocean Research.

## Seriously

Some time ago climatologists became worried about the ozone layer. It protects life on our planet from damaging ultra-violet radiation from the sun. Since 1977 research has shown that there has been an alarming thinning of this layer at certain points and over the Antarctic there is a large hole in the ozone strata.

No-one knows yet whether this is a regular, recurring fluctuation or the consequence of

damaging effects from the earth. There are suspicions that hydro-carbon fluoride used in sprays, as a coolant in refrigerators and in air-conditioners is responsible.

This danger has been taken seriously. Forty-six states signed the Montreal ozone agreement, including the Federal Republic. These committed themselves to a 50 per cent reduction of hydro-carbon fluoride up to the year 2000. German manufacturers of fuel gas have committed themselves even further than the federal government.

The great height, where this natural science phenomenon happens, makes it difficult to carry out investigations from aircraft or ground stations. The "Polarstern" is equipped to do this.

The Max Planck Institute and Munich University have developed equipment to measure ultra-violet radiation using lasers. It can reach heights of 50,000 metres up. The ozone laser, that can also operate in daylight, can at various heights examine the protective layer of our earth

during the polar summer, when the sun never sets.

The "Polarstern" is owned by the Bonn Scientific Research Ministry. So far more than 1,000 scientists from many countries have worked on board her. The vessel is a match for all the rigours of the Antarctic. She can winter at the South Pole and break through ice up to two to three metres in thickness. The ship is supported by four land stations, maintained by West German polar research.

Help for the Polarstern scientists' work also comes from the skies. At the beginning of December two "Polar" aircraft were seen off on the long flight from the Cologne/Bonn airport to the Antarctic. Until March they will there carry out vital transport duties. They will be particularly concerned in supplying a costly geological expedition to the Shackleton Mountains.

The two propeller aircraft flew to Punta Arenas on the southern tip of South America via Valencia and Rio de Janeiro. In Punta Arenas they were fitted with skids making them suitable for polar operations.



Two Dornier aircraft flew out to the Antarctic by stages. They will support scientists from the West German research vessel "Polarstern" on a geological expedition to the Shackleton Mountains.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: My husband works in a kitchen and always seems to get burned on the job. He doesn't worry about it, but I do. I keep trying to get him to retire, but he won't.

ANSWER: You are right; even the smallest burns can spell trouble, especially for the older person.

Accurate assessment is necessary for each burn, because there is always the possibility of complications.

When liquids scald skin, they can cause burns that go through every layer of skin in just seconds. If the hot liquids roll off the skin quickly, they may cause only superficial wounds.

The potential for complication increases if a deep burn is on the face, ears, hands, feet or genitals. When a burn has penetrated the full thickness of the skin, it heals by forming scar tissue. The scars can greatly impair functions of the feet, hands and face. Burns to the eyelids, for example, can be devastating if scar tissue forms.

The scarring may cause permanent disfigurement.

Many burns cause infections. Burns on the foot and ankle, where the skin is thin and blood supply is poor, are frequently sites of infection. Genital area burns are also high-risk sites for infection.

## BURNS CAN SPELL TROUBLE, ESPECIALLY FOR ELDERLY

When burn victims are elderly, the risk for complication is much greater. Older people often have a diminished sense of pain. That means they may not realise that the burn penetrated the full thickness of the skin. The skin also deteriorates and circulation is impaired in many elderly people, increasing the risk of infection and delayed healing.

Patients with diabetes also have a higher-than-normal risk of infection because of peripheral neuropathy and small artery disease.

Other patients at greater risk of infection include those who are immunosuppressed or those on medication, such as high doses of cortisone.

High-risk patients may be given antibiotics or even may be candidates for surgery when the burn is severe. Patients caring for their burn at home should fill a freshly scrubbed tub, sink or basin with lukewarm water. Soak the wound 10-15 minutes and gently wash the burn with a clean, soft washcloth. Remove any old cream, blood or loose skin. The wound then should be rinsed with clear lukewarm water and patted dry with a clean towel.

A thick layer of silver sulfadiazine cream should be spread over the wound. Finally, cover the cream with gauze dressing and

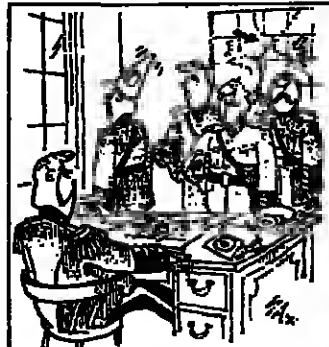
wrap it with several layers of bandage. The wound should be cleaned and redressed every day. If you notice the burn isn't healing normally, see a doctor right away.

Now show this answer to that husband of yours. I am not trying to scare him, just prove that your concern is valid and hopefully provide you with a few good tips on care, while urging him to be a bit more careful.

QUESTION: If I put off relying on glasses even though lately it's hard to read things up close doesn't that mean my eyes will remain stronger?

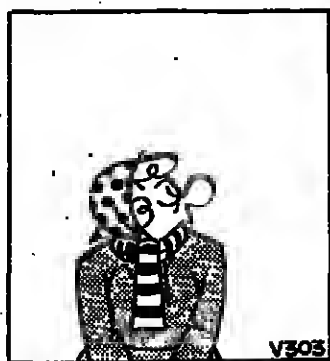
ANSWER: Glasses simply give you a clear picture of your world. They do not harm your eyes. Delaying wearing them will mean fuzzy vision, possible accidents and depriving yourself of the joys of sharp vision. If you're 40 years or older, you may need reading glasses because of a normal condition called presbyopia. The lens inside the eye loses its elasticity and can't change its shape to focus on small print. Check with an eye doctor to make sure there is no underlying disease condition causing the blurred vision. The doctor then will prescribe the best correction. People who always have worn glasses may find they need bifocals.

1988 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.



"Anybody else foot a bottle this week?"

## ANDY CAPP



By Smith



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Intervention alone won't be able to prop up dollar indefinitely

## Central banks can't buck a trend forever

NEW YORK, Feb. 6, (UPI): The dollar greeted the New Year with a rally fostered by the world's central banks and spurred by a good trade report, but market watchers do not expect these developments to bring about a long-awaited turnaround in the US currency.

The central banks, seeking to trap speculators who bet against the dollar and to set a floor beneath which traders would be afraid to let it drop, undertook massive interventions in the currency markets in early January.

Their cause was aided by the \$13.2 billion November US trade deficit announced on Jan. 15, a gap 25 per cent below that of October and far better than most financial market participants had expected.

With those two factors pushing it higher, the dollar has risen to about 127 yen from the 121.10 level at which it closed 1987 and to 1.67 marks from 1.57 on New Year's eve.

**Deficit**  
But economists said the nation's budget and trade deficits still threaten the dollar and it will not make a meaningful recovery until they are resolved.

Traders already are focusing on the December trade figures, to be released in February, and some feel they have cause for concern. Japan has released its December numbers, and they

show its trade surplus surged to \$8.6 billion from November's \$4.7 billion.

While not all of Japan's surplus arises from its trade with the United States, the sharp gain has given rise to concerns that December's figures may not be as heart-warming as November's report.

Many observers said they think the dollar will continue to slide in coming months in the absence of any serious effort to resolve the budget and trade gaps.

"The trade deficit is still very large. Even at (November's level), it is about 150 billion annually," says Stephen Marris of the Institute for International Economics in Washington.

**Pressure**  
"I still remain bearish on the dollar. If you go back to 1977-78, the strong pressure on the dollar came 18 months after the trade balance had improved."

On the budget front, Budget Director James Miller said in early January that President Reagan's proposal for fiscal 1989 "appears" not to exceed the 136 billion deficit agreed to with Congress last year.

Marris predicted the dollar will fall from its current level to 115 yen or even lower in the second half of the year. He also said he thinks a recession is unavoidable because higher interest rates will be needed to boost the currency and stem

inflationary pressures later this year.

"We have no foreign lenders, and the central banks will run out of ammunition," he said.

Marris said the level of the latest central bank purchases to prop up the battered dollar was at least four times as large as those in previous interventions.

Estimates of dollars bought by the banks range from \$2 billion to \$3 billion. That action caught several speculators by surprise, and as they scrambled to cover their short positions, the dollar soared.

**Value**

Another unique feature of the intervention was that the central banks continued to buy dollars even as the currency's value was rising. That was done to increase the cost to the speculators who had bet the currency would continue its decline and also to set some sort of a floor for the dollar.

Albert Soria, foreign exchange manager at the New York branch of Swiss Bank Corp., said the weak dollar could set off another global stock market collapse.

It was the mid-October plunge that led the central banks to massively intervene to support the dollar, whose declining value made foreign investors hesitant to commit to US Securities. When Wall Street went, it took the rest of the world's stock exchanges with it.

"The dollar opened in Japan at the precarious level of 120.5 yen (Jan 4) and the banks realised the dollar was sitting very weak and market crashes could ensue and they would have a terrible economic situation on hand," said Soria.

"The Japanese central bank intervened and was quickly followed by (West Germany's) Bundesbank and the (US) Federal Reserve. The thing about this intervention is that all the banks coordinated their effort and it was the first time they showed any unity since the Louvre accord."

That agreement, signed in February 1987 in the Louvre Art Museum in Paris by the United States, France, West Germany, Britain, Canada, Italy and Japan, was a pact among the group of seven industrial nations to stabilise their currencies at then-current levels. Five of those nations (Canada and Italy joined later) had been working to lower the dollar's value since September 1985, when it was felt that such a strategy was needed to help the United States deal with its budget and trade deficits.

Allen Sinai, chief economist for Boston Co. and Economic Advisors Inc., a unit of Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc., said fears of another market collapse are overdue but agreed the dollar coming into 1988 was sliding "too far too fast" and there was a

risk the currency "could cascade."

He said the central bank intervention achieved the objective of throwing speculators off balance but noted the dollar was also helped by short-term interest rates that have remained relatively high.

Sinai said bank interventions will not help the dollar unless they are accompanied by changes in US economic fundamentals.

"The banks have run out of ammunition in supporting the dollar, and intervention and higher interest rates are all that is left," he said.

Sinai also said he expects the dollar to go down to 115 yen and 1.5 West German marks by the middle of the year.

David Rolley, senior economist with Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc., said the intervention helped establish a certain value for the dollar below which the banks will not let the currency slide and make it extremely risky for speculators to bet against the dollar. He said that level could be between 120 and 140 yen and 1.5 and 1.8 marks.

**Effect**  
But Rolley said while the central banks can have profound effect on currency rates, they cannot control them indefinitely unless they are prepared to accept domestic consequences. Those include higher interest rates in

the United States and increased money supplies (needed to buy dollars) in other countries, with the corresponding risk of inflation in their economies.

"In February 1987, with the Louvre accord, the central banks moved fairly aggressively to stop the dollar's decline. For six weeks after the publication of the accord, the dollar continued to fall despite heavy intervention. The Fed then raised interest rates and accelerated the pace of intervention, which triggered a rally in dollars."

Dennis Hardaker, managing director of international assets, an Irvine, Calif., brokerage specialising in global markets, said the dollar is in for a rough ride in the days to come.

"The only people buying the dollar anywhere in the world now are the central banks—not the private sector. The banks cannot keep it up. Japan's Central Bank alone bought \$45 billion last year, but the dollar still fell 25 per cent against the yen," he said.

Hardaker said the investment community believes continued intervention without private-sector investment will only lead to the debasement of all currencies because countries must use their own wealth to buy dollars.

"Everyone is selling dollars because they don't think the United States will come to grips with its deficits," he said.

## World Business Summary

### Kuwaitis expand their investments in Japan

TOKYO, Feb. 6, (Kuna): Kuwait has been active in purchasing stocks here recently, leading other foreign investors such as Oman and the UAE, local press reports said today.

The Middle East investors seem to be reassessing their international portfolio strategy and stressing investment in Japanese companies showing sound business performance, the reports stated.

About 60 per cent of foreign stock buyers in recent months here were West European investors and major US pension fund operators, with a considerable portion of the remainder being "oil money" investors. Japanese brokers were quoted as saying: They reportedly said that including the inflow into the Tokyo stock market of oil dollars, the combined value of the Middle East oil producers' investment in Japanese stocks certainly accounted for the overwhelming majority of the remaining 40 per cent.

Reports said among other major factors are expectations of sustained economic growth in Japan in contrast to the United States where an economic slowdown leading to possible recession and tighter credit is feared.

Outstanding among the oil-producing investors is Kuwait which invested nearly half of its assets in yen, totalling some 1 trillion yen in Japanese stocks before the "Black Monday," the reports added.

But Kuwait sold 10 to 20 per cent of the Japanese shares shortly before the October crash and it started to invest the money obtained into Japanese stocks again last year, the brokers said. Details of other Middle East and Arab Gulf investors' trends are not known, but it is understood that the UAE and Oman have been expanding their investment in Japanese stocks as well.

Gulf investors tend to turn to long-term issue holdings, said a broker in charge of international business at a major Japanese brokerage firm. The Gulf investors concentrate their investment on lower-price issues with comparatively higher earnings, he added.

They give foremost attention to business performance of Japanese firms, with preference to domestic-related issues such as real estate and electric powers and financials, he added.

### Oilman denies wrongdoing in Iraqi pipeline project

GENEVA, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Swiss oilman Bruce Rappaport denied yesterday any wrongdoing in a billion-dollar Iraqi pipeline plan, a project which has brought US Attorney General Edwin Meese under the scrutiny of criminal investigators. The plan to build a pipeline carrying Iraqi oil to the Jordanian port of Aqaba, proposed by a US construction firm in 1985, has become controversial because of news reports it may have involved attempts to bribe Israeli government officials.

A statement from the offices of Rappaport's Inter Maritime Group said: Bruce Rappaport, a Swiss businessman mentioned in recent media reports regarding the proposed Iraq-Aqaba pipeline, today disclaimed any knowledge of or participation in any unlawful or improper activity regarding the pipeline project. The statement added: Mr Rappaport felt compelled to make this statement because of false or otherwise misleading statements appearing in various publications suggested that he had been instrumental in arranging payments to be made to one or more Israeli government officials or political parties in exchange for official Israeli government support for the project. "It was the first time I had been accused of anything," Rappaport said. US press reports have described him as one of the main figures in the deal, which was to have extended a crude oil pipeline near Israeli territory in Aqaba. Sources close to the office of US special prosecutor James McKay say the bribery suggestion may have been raised in a memorandum written in Geneva by E. Robert Wallace, an old friend of the attorney-general and who was reported to be an associate of Rappaport and others in promoting the pipeline deal.

### Oil output sharply down

BOGOTA, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Output from Colombia's biggest oilfield fell by more than half in January due to guerrilla bombings of the pipeline carrying oil to the coast, a senior official said yesterday. Ramiro Perez Palacios, hydrocarbons adviser to the Minister of Mines and Energy, told Reuters output at the Craven Norte field dropped to 95,000 barrels per day (bpd) last month from its average of 205,000 bpd. He said Craven Norte, 600 km (360 miles) north of Bogota, accounts for about half of Colombia's total output of 400,000 bpd. Since January 12, when guerrillas began bombing the 785-km (488-mile) pipeline linking Craven Norte to the Caribbean port of Coveñas, no crude had been pumped for export through the duct, Perez Palacios said.

The defence ministry has said pro-Cuban guerrillas of the National Liberation Army (ELN) have bombed the pipeline more than 12 times since January 12.

Exports of crude were not immediately halted, Perez Palacios said. A floating storage unit containing up to two million barrels of crude at Coveñas had continued servicing clients for an unspecified amount of time. Craven Norte is normally the source for 165,000 bpd in exports, the official said, with the state firm Ecopetrol and the Los Angeles-based Occidental Petroleum Corp each handling about half of the exports. Perez Palacios said he did not have details on total oil exports from Colombia last month.

He said a normal 17,000 bpd of crude from a separate field in southern Putumayo Department was being exported through the Pacific port of Tumaco.

### Oil markets quietly easier

LONDON, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Crude oil prices were static to slightly weaker on the international spot markets, as activity remained sluggish, traders said. An overhang of immediately available supplies had pushed prices for cargoes of North Sea oil lower. But the Brent "paper markets," on which oil far forward loading dates is traded without necessarily being physically delivered, were steady. As a result, the gap between paper and physical North Sea oil has widened. However, traders ended the week uncertain over future price direction, and this was reflected in the low level of trading activity. Towards the close of European trade, North Sea Brent, the most widely traded international crude, was quoted 10 cts lower at 16.15. Dubai, the leading Mideast grade, was steady at 15.50, while the benchmark US crude, West Texas Intermediate, eased 15 cts to 17.15.

### Algeria offers to build gas pipeline across Morocco

ALGIERS, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Algeria has offered to build a gas pipeline across neighbouring Morocco to Europe if a solution to the Western Sahara war begins to emerge, the official news agency APS reported yesterday.

Diplomats said the suggestion by President Chadli Benjedid, reported by APS, held out substantial benefits for Morocco in exchange for a peace settlement in the former Spanish colony, where Algeria supports Polisario guerrillas fighting against Moroccan rule.

The President told a meeting of governors on Thursday that "in the event that a settlement begins to emerge" in the Western Sahara, Algeria would also reopen its frontiers with Morocco and restore diplomatic relations, the agency said.

### Relations

Algeria closed its frontier and Morocco broke off relations in 1976 when Polisario guerrillas started their campaign to gain control of western Sahara. After restoring relations, Algeria would also "elaborate joint projects (with Morocco) including the gas pipeline which would benefit our Western neighbour," Chadli said, adding that the pipeline would go to Spain and the rest of Europe.

Algeria is stepping up exploitation of its extensive natural gas deposits, Morocco has to import most of its energy.

Morocco favours a UN-sponsored referendum in the disputed territory, but it rejects UN calls, backed by Algeria, for direct talks with Polisario guerrillas before the vote.

### US sees continued increase in oil imports

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6, (Reuters): US oil consumption and oil imports are expected to continue to rise this year, the Energy Department said in its short-term energy outlook released yesterday.

It said consumption was expected to grow by less than one per cent in 1988, marking the third consecutive year of increased use.

The department said domestic production would likely fall at a rate between one and two per cent this year, forcing a rise in oil imports to about 36 per cent of consumption, up from last year's 35 per cent.

### High

Imports reached their high in 1977, at 46 per cent.

The department predicted oil prices to fall to \$18 a barrel in the first quarter of 1988, down from about \$18 in the last quarter of 1987, reflecting high global stock levels.

It added that prices should then generally rise, reaching the \$19-a-barrel level by the first quarter of 1989.

The department also said coal consumption should remain fairly constant this year and natural gas use rise slightly.

### 'Economy is slowing but not heading into a recession'

## Slower growth predicted for America

NEW YORK, Feb. 6, (Reuters): The US employment report for January, which showed reduced growth in non-farm payroll jobs, confirms that the nation's economy is slowing but not heading into a recession, economists said yesterday.

"All in all, it's consistent with a slower-paced expansion but not a recession," said Norman Robertson of Mellon Bank.

Friday's report fuelled debate over the stance of the Federal Reserve, with some economists arguing that the US Central Bank is under more pressure to ease its credit policy quickly and others saying it was unlikely to act just yet.

"I don't think this (report) on its own will cause the Fed to ease policy," said Fred Peck of First Boston Corp.

He said Fed officials will probably wait to get a better idea about the nation's economic health before taking any new action. "We need more data," Peck said.

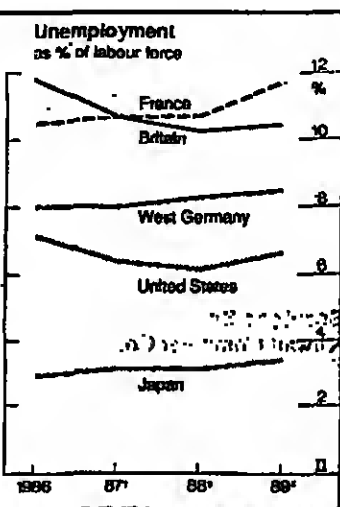
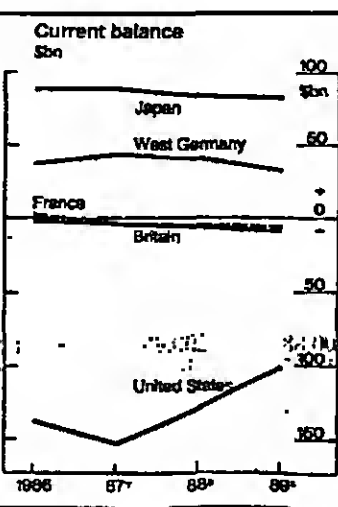
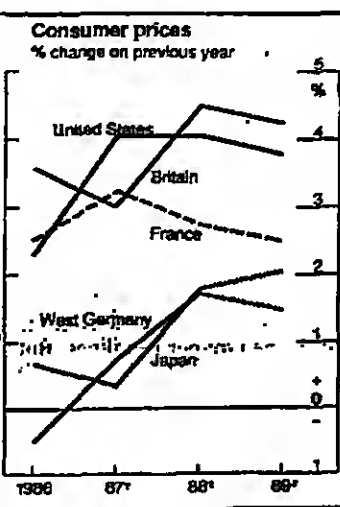
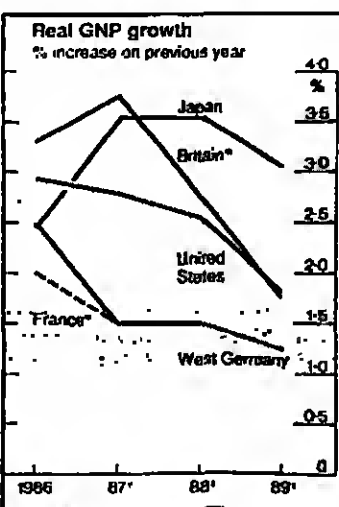
### Jobs

The Labour Department said non-farm payroll jobs grew by 107,000 last month, less than half of the forecast growth of about 220,000. The report also revised downward the rise in non-farm payrolls in December to 311,000 from 326,000.

The civilian unemployment rate, meanwhile, was unchanged at 5.8 per cent, its lowest level since July 1979.

Unemployment had been expected to rise to 5.9 per cent last month as a result of higher weekly claims for unemployment insurance.

Economists said the report pointed to slower growth in the



first quarter of the year, following the rapid expansion seen in the latter half of 1987.

### Gears

"It said the economy is shifting gears—from relatively high gear through most of 1987 to lower gear in 1988," said Stan Shipley of Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc. Shipley forecast that the growth in the US gross national product (GNP) this quarter would slow to 1.3 per cent from 4.2 per cent in the final quarter of last year.

Economists, in discounting the likelihood of an imminent recession, pointed to continued growth in manufacturing employment. The sharp drop in the dollar has bolstered the industrial job market by spurring US exports, particularly machinery, steel and paper.

"The manufacturing sector is going to carry the economy this year and keep it out of recession," said David Jones of Aubrey G. Lanston and Co. Inc.

Manufacturing employment expanded for the seventh straight month, but at a slower pace in January, adding 25,000 jobs for a total of 19.4 million jobs.

While construction and auto assembly were weak, there was continued growth in machinery and electrical-equipment manufacturing.

Other positive factors economists pointed to were a rise in the manufacturing work week to 41.1 hours in January from a revised 41 hours in December.

The government's survey of households showed the labour force rose by 453,000, to 121.18 million in January, and civilian employment rose 385,000 to 114.13 million.

Also, economists said that some of the job losses came in government, where reductions last month could have been over-

stated by the timing of the employment survey.

"State and local government employment drops during December as states and local officials try to comply with ceilings on employment," James Cochrane of Texas Commerce Bancshares Inc. said. Such employment fell 69,000 last month, while federal jobs grew by only 2,000.

In contrast to manufacturing employment, economists said, consumer-related areas—including auto, retail trade and construction—were likely to face softness in the months ahead because of lower consumer spending.

**Policy**  
Employment in financial services, already hit by the October 19 stock rout, also is expected to face softness.

The regular meeting of the Fed's policy-making arm, the

Federal Open Market Committee, will take place on Tuesday and some economists have predicted it will ease credit policy.

The easing would come in response to signs of a slowing economy, particularly the large inventory buildup in last quarter's gross national product report. The growth slowdown in non-farm jobs added to speculation of an easing.

"It would confirm that if they haven't already done it, they will do it at the meeting," said Lanston's Jones.

Jones and others do not expect an aggressive easing—such as a cut in the Fed's 6 per cent discount rate—but rather an allowance for a drop in the federal funds rate to 6.50 per cent from the 6.75 per cent in recent weeks. They warned that a discount rate cut could undermine the dollar and stoke fears of inflation.

### Dassault wins first export order in 2 years

PARIS, Feb. 6, (Reuters): French aerospace firm Dassault said today it had won its first export order in more than two years when Jordan agreed to buy 20 Mirage-2000 multi-role combat aircraft.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac sealed the agreement on Thursday in talks with visiting King Hussein of Jordan, ending an unprecedented lean period for Avions Marcel Dassault-Breguet Aviation.

State-controlled Dassault's

last major export sale was over two years ago, when India purchased Mirage-2000 aircraft.

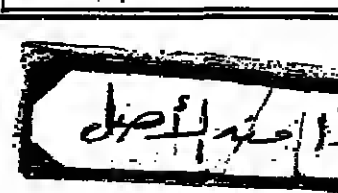
The company laid off 1,261 of its 15,000 workers last year. Dassault had been after the Jordanian order for more than three years, against competition from the Tornados, built by the British-German-Italian Panavia consortium, the F-16 built by General Dynamics Corp of the United States, and the Soviet Union's new export aircraft, the MiG-29.



### Urgent Message To All British Expatriates ... Panic, Buy Now !!!

Due to a recent change in British Tax Laws you have only until February the 19th in which to secure a totally tax-free income for the rest of your life. If you have any questions with regard to the new legislation, please give me a call. Acting now could save you between 27% and 60% on tax when you need it most. This is your last chance to beat the tax man.

Contact me, Tony Mustafa, any time at the Holiday Inn. Tel. 4742000.





## Transit trade hit by market crisis

## Economy on target, says Al Khaled

By Mohammed Al Barges

KUWAIT'S Commerce and Industry Minister, Faisal Al Khaled, said yesterday that the Shuwaikh Industrial Area had been turned into an area of real estate investments in clear disregard of the contract signed between the state and the beneficiaries of these plots.

In an interview with the Seyasah and Arab Times newspapers, he said that steps were being taken to terminate the violations. He said that plots would not be withdrawn because the state wanted to give the beneficiaries a last chance to correct their positions.

## Conditions

He said that he was not strict about allotting industrial plots but was taking every care to apply the rules concerning conditions for granting the plots.

The minister emphasised that there were many signs that clearly indicated that local economy had returned to a healthy condition, indicating that the return of much Kuwaiti capital to Kuwait showed the confidence prevailing in the country.

He pointed out that the local economic situation was related to the overall international economic order and developments. He said that any development in the world economy would reflect

on Kuwait.

Al Khaled said that the trade in Kuwait had dropped greatly after the big crisis caused by local and surrounding factors, including the Iraq-Iran war. He added that such conditions influenced the transit trade a great deal.

## Plans

The minister said that many plans were submitted for improving and boosting economic activity.

He said that the Kuwaiti economy was greatly influenced by the drop in purchasing power because of the drop in manpower and the state revenues. Such a trend prevailed in Kuwait during the past four years, but he said that the positive signs in the Kuwait economy at present made him optimistic about a return to full activity.

Regarding the positive signs he had referred to, he said that the best of these signs was the return of active trading at the Kuwait stock exchange. He added that several organisational measures had been introduced and these helped to restore confidence to the market. This was reflected in the amount of buying and selling.

## Participation

The holding of many trade fairs in Kuwait during the past three years and the participation of a large number of foreign and local companies was another

positive sign. He said that such participation showed the trust of the companies in the Kuwaiti economy.

He said that activity was gradually returning to the real estate market also.

Al Khaled announced that large sums of national capital had already returned to Kuwait, and this was substantiated by official figures and statistics.

He said that the return of this capital emphasised the fact that investing in Kuwait was more profitable and secure.

He stressed that liquidity was available in the local market and only needed investment channels. The best evidence of this was the fast purchase of the bonds and treasury bills sold by the Central Bank. He said Kuwaiti merchants and traders wanted the market to extend beyond Kuwait, but the Iraq-Iran war closed important markets.

## Licences

He denied the ministry was strict about issuing industrial licences, added that the ministry was only applying the law. If applicants did not fulfil the conditions they would not be granted licences. The ministry cannot provide the licence before first ensuring the feasibility of the project.

About withdrawal of industrial plots from persons whose

projects were failures, he said the government would continue to cooperate with these persons to help them overcome their problems.

He said decisions to withdraw plots were in the hands of the Industry Development Committee.

He said that a number of industrial plots in Sabhan area were withdrawn because the owners did not even start any project on them. They were given several chances to start but they did not.

Speaking about the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, he said that many studies had been prepared on this area, and the last was made in 1980 by a consulting company.

He said the studies were initiated because of the many complaints by people in the area.

Investment He pointed out that the area had been illegally turned into a real estate investment area instead of being used for industrial projects.

He said some of these plots had been used for commercial shops, some of which were licensed, but the majority were not.

Most of the plots had been leased on sub-contract basis to others, and this clearly broke the provisions of the contract made with the government because the contract totally banned any lease-

ing to others.

The study gave three options. One was to remove the shops in the whole area, but this was rejected because of the high cost. The second option proposed carrying out limited traffic and landscaping and this was also rejected.

The third option was accepted. It called for first removing the violations and then carrying out reforms by creating services in the area, such as gardens, car parks, and removing dangerous industries.

## Study

He said a committee consisting of representatives from the Commerce and Industry Ministry and Kuwait Municipality was formed to study this option in detail and it submitted its proposals to the concerned authorities for action.

## Decision

Regarding closing of some shops by the ministry before an official decision was taken, Al Khaled said that during its study the committee decided to prevent any further violations in the area. For this reason it decided to stop the opening of any violating shop after April 1, 1987, and the ministry closed down a number of shops that opened after that date.

Al Khaled said the ministry will provide substitute plots in several areas, such as Sulabiya, Ardhiya and Dajji.

## New system needed

## Crash dampens economic outlook

THE 10th conference of Arab Economists Union opened in Kuwait yesterday under the patronage of HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah.

Kuwait's Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Al Khaled has been deputised by HH the Amir to patronize the conference, which was organized jointly by the secretariat of the Arab Economic Union and the Kuwaiti Economists Society.

In an opening speech, Al Khaled said that this gathering was held during a difficult international economic situation, citing the international debt crisis as an example.

## Deterioration

He said that the recent sudden deterioration in the international stock markets had added a new dimension to the path of the international economy.

He added: The economic difficulties do not include only the debt crisis or the stock markets crash but they include many problems, and directly affect



Kuwait's Commerce and Industry Minister, Faisal Al Khaled addresses the conference.

Arab and developing countries in the absence of a new international economic system.

Al Khaled noted that developing countries have always called for new economic system to correct the imbalance on econ-

omic relations between North and South.

But the issue remained in the hands of the industrial countries which keep their control over the effective economic policies worldwide.

## Critical

The Kuwaiti minister said that the Arab world is witnessing a very critical situation and is confronting political challenges in addition to the economic problems.

He cited as an example the Iraq-Iran war, which, he said, is still exhausting economic capabilities and achievements. He also cited the situation in occupied Palestine as another example of the challenges that obstruct a prosperous economic situation in the Arab world.

He called for unified Arab action to face such challenges, stressing that the success of an Arab economic development needs a joint Arab effort and cooperation at commercial, financial, economic and cultural levels.

## Alshall stock price indices

## Kuwait share prices decline

ALSHALL Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 39.78 points with a slight decrease of 0.68 points from last week. Alshall Index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 48.88 points with a slight increase of 0.27 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 21.55 million shares at a daily average of 4.31 million shares with a slight increase of 9.7 per cent over the previous week daily average of 3.93 million shares.

Gulf traded shares reached 25.73 million shares at a daily average of 5.15 million shares with an increase of 30.4 per cent over last week daily average of 3.95 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD. 7.21 million while it was KD. 1.67 million for the Gulf traded shares.

The market showed signs of decrease in prices of Kuwaiti shares, a slight increase in the prices of Gulf Shares and an increase in the volume of trading for both shares, which was obvious for Gulf shares.

The announcements of dividends for some companies had a negative influence on the level of the market's activity. The return of investment seems to have gained a momentum, which, which reduced the influence of speculation in the market.

The various sectors maintained their last week's respective positions in relation to trading volume.

For Kuwaiti shares the banking sector had the lead at 39 per cent with the Gulf bank having the highest percentage of 27 per cent of this sector, followed by Kuwait National Bank 24 per cent and Kuwait Finance House 22 per cent.

The Services Sector came second at 29 per cent of total trading with Kuwait Commercial Markets having a high percentage of 63 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems 19 per cent and Kuwait Computer Company 13 per cent.

The investment sector came third at 17 per cent of total trading with Commercial Facilities Company having 43 per cent of this sector, Investment Pearl Kuwait 28 per cent and International Financial advisors (IAF) 24 per cent of total trading and the other companies sector had 32 per cent.

Coast Investment and Development Company had the highest trading volume of Gulf traded shares of 53 per cent followed by Ras Al-Khaima White Cement at 12 per cent and Gulf Medical Projects at 11 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index			
	Wednesday 03/02/88	Wednesday 27/01/88	Change points
<b>Banking Sector</b>			
Kuwait National Bank	94.08	95.00	-0.92
The Gulf Bank	31.45	32.70	-1.26
The Commercial Bank	23.08	23.52	-0.44
Alahli Bank	34.12	36.04	-1.92
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	23.68	24.56	-0.88
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	35.32	35.32	—
Burgan Bank	27.25	27.75	-0.50
Kuwait Finance House	66.22	66.89	-0.67
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>42.44</b>	<b>43.32</b>	<b>-0.87</b>
<b>Investment Sector</b>			
Kuwait Investment Co.	34.85	35.53	-0.68
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	29.21	29.55	-0.34
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	84.13	85.71	-1.59
IFA	83.82	83.82	—
<b>Commercial Facilities</b>	96.59	96.59	—

Sector Index			
	42.80	43.08	-0.48
<b>Insurance Sector</b>			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	40.23	40.23	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	28.46	—
Alahli Insurance Co.	45.53	45.53	—
Warba Insurance Co.	84.19	84.19	—
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>40.39</b>	<b>40.39</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Real Estate Sector</b>			
Kuwait Real Estate	35.05	35.68	-0.64
United Realty	13.63	14.52	-0.89
National Real Estate	46.58	46.58	—
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>24.76</b>	<b>25.39</b>	<b>-0.63</b>
<b>Industrial Sector</b>			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.22	16.22	—
Refrigeration Indust.	82.60	84.69	-2.09
Gulf Cables	105.93	105.93	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	75.59	76.44	-0.89
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>33.33</b>	<b>33.50</b>	<b>-0.17</b>
<b>Services Sector</b>			
Kuwait Computer Co.	200.88	200.88	—
Kuwait Cinema Co.	10.37	10.37	—
Public Warehousing Co.	39.95	39.95	—
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	366.67	366.67	—
Mobile Telephone Syst.	68.69	69.23	-0.53
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>68.69</b>	<b>69.23</b>	<b>-0.53</b>
<b>Food Sector</b>			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	50.85	51.87	-1.02
United Fisheries	9.77	10.06	-0.28
Kuwait United Poultry	90.21	90.21	—
Kuwait Food Co.	68.97	71.26	-2.30
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>44.09</b>	<b>44.97</b>	<b>-0.87</b>
<b>Overall Index</b>	<b>39.78</b>	<b>40.47</b>	<b>-0.68</b>

Gulf shareholding companies index			
	Wednesday 03/02/88	Wednesday 27/01/88	Change points
<b>Financial Companies</b>			
First Gulf Bank	228.95	228.95	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	100.69	100.69	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	96.81	96.81	—
Pearl Investment Co.	56.81	56.81	—
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.76	-0.74
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	79.65	77.06	2.60
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	72.67	71.13	1.55
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shnaa)	61.36	61.36	—
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>65.46</b>	<b>65.11</b>	<b>-0.35</b>
<b>Other Companies</b>			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	11.97	11.97	—
Sharjah Cement	7.50	7.00	0.50
Fujairah Cement	9.87	9.87	—
Ajman Cement	10.00	10.00	—
Ras al-Khaima W. Cement	18.33	18.33	—
Gulf Medical Projects	17.11	17.11	—
Poultry & Fodder R. Alkha	36.36	36.36	—
<b>Sector Index</b>	<b>12.63</b>	<b>12.52</b>	<b>0.11</b>
<b>Overall Index</b>	<b>48.88</b>	<b>48.61</b>	<b>0.27</b>

Base Period 31/12/1983.

## Chrysler earnings surge

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (AP) Record sales helped boost Chrysler Corp.'s fourth-quarter earnings 8 per cent over the year-earlier period, the number 3 American automaker reported yesterday.

Chrysler said earnings for the three months ended Dec 31 totalled \$350.2 million, compared with \$324.2 million in the fourth quarter of 1986.

## Surge

Sales for the 1987 fourth quarter totalled a record \$7.67 billion, a 29.1 per cent surge over the \$5.94 billion in sales a year earlier, Chrysler said.

The Detroit-based company, third in size behind General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co., announced its earnings after a board meeting at which directors voted to install a shareholder-rights plan to prevent any unwanted takeover attempts.

Company known as a "poison pill" plan, it would make a hostile bid prohibitively expensive.

"We believe Chrysler is an unlikely candidate for a hostile takeover," a company statement said. "But in today's volatile

market, you have to plan for the unlikely as well as the likely."

For all of 1987, Chrysler said earnings totalled \$1.29 billion, 7.1 per cent lower than earnings of \$1.39 billion, in 1986. In that year earnings included a one-time net gain of \$131.9 million from the sale of Chrysler's interest in the French automaker Peugeot.

Without that gain, Chrysler's 1986 earnings would have

## AMF chief for Kuwait

ABU DHABI, Feb. 6. (Openca): Dr Abdullah Al Quwaiz, director general of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), leaves for Kuwait tomorrow for talks aimed at boosting economic and financial cooperation between the fund and one of its major supporters.

Kuwait's contribution to the \$922 million capital of the Abu Dhabi-based AMF is nearly 11 per cent.

Officials at the AMF said the director general's visit was designed to enable the fund to play a larger role in unifying Arab economies.

totalled \$1.26 billion.

Revenues for 1987 totalled a record \$26.28 billion versus \$22.59 billion, a 16.3 per cent increase.

The automaker also said its share of the US car and truck market rose to 12.3 per cent in 1987 from 11.7 per cent in 1986.

Chrysler's share of the truck market jumped to 15.9 per cent in 1987 from 12.1 per cent in 1986, largely because of the August 1987 acquisition of jeepmaker American Motors Corp.

He will also discuss with Kuwaiti officials issues expected to come up during the next meeting of the AMF board of governors.

Al Quwaiz, who ended a visit to Libya last week, said the North African country, which like Kuwait is a member of Opec, was capable of successfully meeting the challenge posed by slow economic growth, major currency fluctuations and the protectionist policies practised by industrialised countries, especially against oil exporters.

## KD deposit rates ease

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates eased yesterday as banks reshuffled positions in quiet trading, dealers said.

But liquidity remained relatively tight after last week's 80 million dinar treasury bond issue.

The Central Bank did not announce a new treasury bill or bond issue this week which dealers said would help keep rates down.

Overnight dealt at one per cent after six and 6-1/2 per cent on Thursday while tomorrow next and spot-next were also easier at three, two per cent after five and 5-1/2 per cent levels.

In the fixed periods, there were deals reported only in the one-month at 4-3/8 and 4-1/2 per cent.

## Down

One and three-month were quoted 1/8 point down at 4-3/4, 1/4 per cent. Six-month was virtually unchanged at 4-7/8, 1/2 per cent but one-year slipped to 5-1/8, 4-3/4 per cent from Thursday's 5-3/8, 4-7/8 per cent.

The Central Bank dinar exchange rate was softer at 0.27651/61 to the dollar from Thursday's 0.27604/14, with

Commercial Bank spot quotes at 0.27660/66.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposit rates were marked down today in a virtually dead market on the back of lower Eurodollar interest rates, dealers said.

"There was no demand and no offers," said one dealer, who added that banks were waiting for European markets to open on Monday before making any moves.

Dealers said the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency's weekly offering of 30-day deposits was likely to receive a weak response because of a shortage of day to day funds. The deposits carried a yield just under 6.60 per cent.

One-month interbank deposits declined about 1/8 point from Thursday to 6-15/16, 11/16 per cent. Gulf markets are closed on Fridays.

Three-months eased 1/16 point on the offer side to seven, 6-7/8 per cent. Six-months were little changed at 7-1/4, 1/16 per cent.

The spot riyal was little changed at 3.7500/05 to the dollar.

The spot riyal was little changed at 3.7500/05 to the dollar.

## SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 6.2.88			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Al Mujeeb	Algh. Barber	4843988
2	Zarka	Alqutub	4747815
3	Nem Jiang	M. Behar	2433881
6	Anwar Sg	Sager Shahin	2432692
11	Wave Crest	Algh. Barber	4843988
16	Komesheima Maru	Al Bader	2433537
17	White Reefer	Al Bader	2433537
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
5/2	Barge Jubail	Gulf Star	4845501
5/2	Tug Abu Samir	Gulf Star	4845501
5/2	Simeria	Alsawan	4746018
6/2	Norasia Arabia	Emad Bahar	4841807
6/2	Mandama	Algh. Barber	4843988
7/2	Rashidah	Alqutub	4747815
7/2	Lanka Seedevi	Alqutub	4747815
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B. No	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Ocean Envoy	Al Majid	2421439
3	Tug Delmar 5	Sagership	2432692
3	Barge Delmar 2	Sagership	2432692
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
5/2	Grace Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
5/2	Progress Carrier	Saher Shaheen	2432692
6/2	Elferberia K	Al Rashad	2432642
8/2	Ahu Basma	Roger	2432642
8/2	Sunset	Roger	2432642
11/2	YS Prosperity	Al Rashad	2422026
11/2	Rhein Express	M. Bahar	2433881
COMPILED BY Alghaim Barber Shipping Co. WLL, PO Box 21708 Safat, Alghaim Industries Bldg. Airport Road, Shuwaikh. Phone 4843988/4842988 extn. 3628/3614.			

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Al Mujeeb	Algh. Barber	4843988
2	Zarka	Alqutub	4747815
3	Nem Jiang	M. Behar	2433881
6	Anwar Sg	Sager Shahin	2432692
11	Wave Crest	Algh. Barber	4843988
16	Komesheima Maru	Al Bader	2433537



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

# MARKET PLACE

## ACCOMMODATION

### For Rent

MISHRIF, two storey spacious villa with garden. Curtains, and carpets, drip irrigation system with some light fittings for sale, KD1400. Tele. 5382129, 9 am - 12 noon, 5-7 pm.

(AT6-40830-3)

MISHRIF, villa, single storey, 3 bedrooms, fitted furniture, fully carpeted, garden, carport, excellent maid's quarters. No agents. Rent KD600. Tele. Mr. Hasler 5382187, after 6 pm.

(AT6-40829-2)

### Available

HAWALLI, near Dr. Nawgirie Clinic. Independent room preferably for Indians. Bus routes 14, 18, 37, 506, 102. Rent KD60. Tele. 2628316, after 5 pm.

(AT6-40837-3)

**FOR RENT**

- \* Villas
- \* Part Villas
- \* Flats \* Offices

Excellent condition with 2-3-4 Bedrooms with Dining room, Saloon, Telephone, Garden, Car parking, space, Servant's quarters with Central Airconditioning. Contact

**Qatar Real Estate**  
Tel: 2406592, 2406593

KUWAIT City next to Herdee's Building, Opp. Maliya bus stop. An independent room for 1 or 2 bachelors to share with a Goan family. Tele. Martin, 2410871, 2421965, 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

(AT1-40817-2)

FARWANIYA behind the Holiday Inn. One room in a three bedroom flat with water and electricity for a couple. Rent KD40. Tele. 2644632, 9 am - 1 pm.

(AT1-40843-3)

KUWAIT City, Darwaza Abdul Razzak, 2 bedrooms for Catholic bachelors to share with a small Indian family, from 1st of March. Tele. Fernandes, 2445611, 4.30 - 8.30 pm.

(AT1-40841-2)

## FOR SALE

### Cars

LANCER 1.4 engine, model 1984, in excellent condition. KD 650. Tele. 5651346, after 2 pm.

(AT2-40872-1)

**Golden Express**  
Int'l Cargo  
Door-to-door  
cargo service to the  
Philippines  
(SEA & AIR)

Any man klase ng boghig a regalo ang noli ninyong ipadala sa mga mahal sa buhay ay makipag-ugnay lang sa GOLDEN EXPRESS INT'L CARGO

Contact: Niam  
Tel. No. 2422332/2447528

MERCEDES, 250, 1979 fully automatic, central lock, blue colour, tested to August '88 extensive new parts fitted. KD1,150 ono. cash. Tele. Mr. Mike, 5338308, anytime.

(AT1-40850-3)

BUICK Le Sabre (1979) A/C, automatic, lemon yellow, registered upto Nov. 88, repainted in excellent condition KD600 o.n.o. Tele. Dr. Bhargava, 4893353 anytime.

(AT1-40847-2)

HYUNDAI Stellar (Prime) 1987 fully automatic, metallic grey, 31,000 kms, overdrive transmission, in excellent condition. Like new. KD1900. Tele. Sulaiman, 3948854.

(AT2-40868-3)

MERCEDES 280SE 1977, automatic and Impala 1977 fully automatic. Both cars in good running condition. Price KD 850 and KD375 respectively. Tele. Ashlan, 4878197 after 1 pm only.

(AT2-40867-3)

VOLVO 240GL 1984 model registered 1985, manual 5 gears in excellent condition inside and out. Tele. 2452880 office, 5336489 (res).

(AT1-40842-3)

HONDA Accord 1985 44000 km, Toyota Carina 1981, white colour in good condition KD 1400 and KD350 respectively. Tele. Heath, 2432046/8/9, 7.30 am - 2.00 pm.

(AT1-40836-3)

PREBIRD Formula 1977, A/C, automatic, grey colour. Well maintained. Tele. Theodora Dias, 5630125, after 3 pm.

(AT2-40869-3)

## Electronics

CANON electronic typewriter Typewriter - 7, new, with Canon parallel interface 30 to be used with computers. KD110 and new Citizen 120 D printer 120 CPS 80 columns KD 85. Tele. 3983510, 3911491.

(AT1-40848-3)

## Furniture

KING sized waterbed with heater, KRUPS stand mixer, 3 system Sony Betamax video player. Tele. D. Smith 2540808, 11 am - 4 pm, 7.30 - 10 pm.

(AT1-40853-2)

## Electrical Appliances

SONY TV new model 22 inch with 24 systems new chains screen price KD 120. Tele. Bassam 5713190.

(AT1-40852-3)

## Miscellaneous

NEW DELHI, two plots of 200 sq. yds. each in Kapil Vihar for sale at very reasonable prices. Tele. Kumar, 4879016-7 ext 181, 7 - 9 am.

(AT2-40860-3)

FARWANIYA, a 2 bedroom CAC flat available from 15th March/1st April with bedroom set, carpets, curtains, kitchen cupboards, dishwasher, and telephone, also Impala car 1981. Rent KD150. Tele. 4744706.

(AT6-40833-3)

MISHRIF, two storey spacious villa with garden, curtains, carpets, drip-irrigation system with some light fittings for sale KD1400. Rent KD650. Tele. 5382129, 9 am - 12 noon, 5-7 pm.

(AT1-40830-3)

CLEARANCE 5 seater settee set, dining table, with 6 chairs, and wall-units. Mishrif, Area 5, Street 11 Villa, 28. Tele. Mr. Hasler, 5382187 after 3 pm.

(AT6-40829-2)

PHOTOCOPIER, sideboard, TV and video stand, large wall unit, medium wall unit. Double bed and mattress, coffee table, display cabinet, music stand, rocking chair. Tele. 2612424.

(AT1-40832-3)

GERMAN Shepherd pure breed, 10 months old, needs a good home. KD 300. For further details Tele. Mr. Bedar, 3903000 (home after 5 pm) 3260233 ext 5204 (work).

(AT1-40854-3)

3 AC's, TV, video, refrigerator, sofa set, dining table with chairs, single beds, wooden cupboards, sideboards etc. Tele. N.S. Nizami, 5656937, 8 am - 2 pm, 5 - 9 pm.

(AT2-40859-3)

## MISCELLANEOUS

HALF container to Houston available. Tele. 3949773.

(AT2-40871-2)

AVAILABLE, five Katha plot near Uttara Dhaka. For details tele Zaki, 4741876, 4 - 6.30 pm.

(AT2-MT-1)

## WANTED

ENCYCLOPAEDIA Britannica in good condition with all volumes. Tele. 5620680, 9 am - 7 pm.

(AT1-40845-2)

**SAGAR JEWELLERS**

Attractive new designs available at our new showroom at:

Sahara House Shop No. 1, Opp. Safar Post Office, Margb.

Tel. 2441563

**FOR RENT**

Villas, Deluxe flats furnished and non-furnished, in Hadlyo, Fahaheel, Fintas, and Abu Halifa.

Yerkait Real Estate Est.  
Tel: 3913189, 3919884.

**THE VIDEO CLUB**

**WANTED Manageress**

With several years in Kuwait and some knowledge of Arabic for new video shop in Fintas.

Tel: 5339647

**DISKETTE**

Stock received Verbatim's Dotolife, bonus & coloured-disk packs-computer ribbons.

Alhagat Trading Co.,  
Tel: 2445422-2445599  
Fax: 4843614

**REQUIRED CAC mechanics**

7 years of experience in maintaining DX Units.

**CAC assistant**

3 years of experience.

Call Tel: 4844448

**REQUIRED**

An international fast food company requires the following staff

1. Cooks
2. Waiters
3. Supervisors

Male & female, minimum 3 yrs experience, with Health Card, transferable residence. Contact personally for interview with C.V. Tel: 2422840 between 8 am and 1 pm & 4 to 7.30 pm.

VILLA - two apartments with garden near Kuwait City. Rent range KD500-600. Tele. Jeff Gilbert 2428377, P.O. Box 1031, Safat, Kuwait.

(AT1-40851-3)

FULL time (or full day) maid knowing English for an Indian working couple in Salmiya. Tele. S.P. Gupta, 5745176, 7 - 9 am, 12.30 - 2.30 pm or after 8 pm.

(AT1-40857-3)

## LOST

BROWN wallet containing passport No. B076593 in the name of Mr. Francis Lodovico Sequeira at Kuwait International Airport (Terminal 1) on 2-2-1988. Tele. Francis 2411001, ext 587 office, 4735867 res. Off. 7.30 am - 1.30 pm. Res. 2 pm onwards or the Indian embassy 2530600.

AT2-40870-3

## SERVICES

### Transport

FARWANIYA to Hawaii. 4 pm and back at 9 pm. Tele. 2644632, 9 am - 1 pm.

(AT1-40844-3)

**FOR RENT**

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.

**Messiah Beach Real Estate**  
Tels. 2401858, 2408510

**Wanted**

For a garage in Shuwaikh

**Mechanics, Electricians, Denters & Painters**

with transferable visa.

Please contact: 4845938 Mr. Alex 4845965 or Joe.

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Check the classified pages of the Arab Times for used cars, boats, furniture and electronics. The bargains will amaze you.

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2. To complete the coupon, follow the sequence of the information given in above printed advertisements, for desired section heading. All advertisements will be printed according to Arab Times format and are subject to editing.
3. Advertisements must not exceed 25 words including name and telephone number.
4. Text must be typed or clearly printed. No alterations or cancellations will be made after publication.
5. Advertisements of personal nature involving business transactions will not be accepted, nor any matrimonial advertisements.
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Our airconditioning maintenance division has the following vocancies

Qty	Qualification & experience
1. Mechanical engineer	1 BSc with KSE membership 5 yrs experience in HVAC
2. Electrical engineer	1 BSc with KSE membership 5 yrs experience in HVAC
3. Foremen	2 Diploma in HVAC + 10 yrs exp.
4. Sr technicians	6 Diploma in HVAC + 5-7 yrs exp.
5. Jr technicians	6 Diploma in HVAC + 3 yrs exp.
6. Asst. technicians	10 Diploma in HVAC
7. Electricians	2 Diploma elect - 5 yrs exp.
8. Plant operators	2 Exp 5 yrs
9. Drivers	4 With valid Kwt driving licence of least 3 yrs experience.

Transferable residence permit holders, pls apply within 7 days to:

Personnel Office, Kazama Engineering Projects, P.O. Box 42324, Shuwaikh. Tel. 4847820/4842033/4847276/4835841/2/3/4

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- Minimum 5 years of experience in marketing essential.
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- 2-3 years of experience.
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Please submit your CV with relevant certificates and photo to:

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Al Shaya Building  
(Behind Mercedes Showroom, next to Siemens, off Pepsi Cola St.)  
Shuwaikh, Kuwait.  
Telephone: 484-8848.

**FOR SALE**

Following plumbing materials available with competitive prices

- Galv. pipes and fittings to B.S. (1387) class C and D.
- Black steel pipes and fittings schedule 40 and 60
- C.I. pipes and fittings B.S. (418) and (437) hot and cold.
- Copper pipes and fittings to B.S. standard.
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- Test plug
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- Fire pumps.

Also all plumbing accessories.

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**FOR RENT SALWA COMPLEX**

Apartments of 250 square metres each.

— Each apartment consists of a master Brm and 3 more Brms plus maid's room, all with fitted cupboards. 4 bathrooms plus guest toilet. Spacious living room with dining area and kitchen with fitted cabinets.

Facilities in the complex include:

- Swimming pool
- Squash courts
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Close to the schools, supermarkets & beach. Rent for each apartment is KD550/- including water & electricity charges plus facilities.

Plus many more flats & villas

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Tel: 5747530-5747531

**FOR RENT**

**Flats and villas at Al Rayan Residential Complex in Abu Halifa area**

Situated in an excellent location with a sea view from the first floor.

**\* Two bedroom**  
**\* Three bedroom**  
**\* Villas**

Deluxe, central airconditioning, marble floor in saloon, wooden cabinets, and kitchen with refrigerator and cooker.

Also furnished apartments and villas available for rent.

The complex is provided with:

- childrens recreation facilities
- squash, tennis and basketball courts
- supermarket
- park
- central aerial
- exercise room
- swimming pool for adults and children
- sauna
- emergency power generating sets

For information please contact:











## GOLF

## Calcavecchia and Jones share lead

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif., Feb. 6, (Reuters): Steve Jones equalled the course record at the Cypress Point club yesterday with an eight-under-par 64 and moved into a tie with Mark Calcavecchia after the second round of the \$750,000 Pebble Beach national pro-am golf tournament.

Jones and Calcavecchia have eight-under-par 136 totals. Tom Sieckmann is alone at 137 and Craig Stadler is at 138. Briton Sandy Lyle and West Germany's Bernhard Langer are tied for fifth place at 139.

Lyle had the most unusual round of the day. He started at the 10th hole and made nine straight pars for a 35. Moving to the 11th hole, he had five birdies and an eagle for a seven-under-par 50.

Lyle's birdie at the first was a chip in from 20 feet and his eagle on the par-five sixth hole was on pitch in from 45 yards.

Jones, a five-year veteran without a tour victory, posted a five-under-par 32 for the first nine holes. He then birdied the 10th and after seven straight pars he scored an eagle two at the final hole. His seven-iron shot landed about 25 feet behind the hole and then kicked back into the cup.

In Calcavecchia's round he had an eagle, four birdies and three bogeys for a 69.

Tom Watson, with a 72, dropped into a tie for seventh place with Jim Gallagher at four-under-par 140. Australian Greg Norman, who like Watson had a 68 on Thursday, shot a 75 and dropped back to nine-under-par 143.

In Melbourne, Australian Mike Clayton will clash with Northern Ireland's Ronan Rafferty in tomorrow's final of the Mercedes-Benz Australian Matchplay Championship at Kingsmill Heath golf club.

Clayton, 30, yesterday cruised into the final with a 5 and 4 victory over fellow Australian Craig Parry.

Rafferty unleashed a burst of four birdies from the start of the back nine to demoralise Australian Vaughan Somers, and clinch a 3 and 2 win.

Earlier in the day, Rafferty put out defending champion and top seed, Australia's Ian Baker-Finch, 4 and 2.

Clayton squeezed into the semifinals with a two up win over Mike Colandro of the United States.

## Lewis eclipses own world record

NEW YORK, Feb. 6, (Reuters): American Tim Lewis set a one mile walk world indoor best time of five minutes 33.53 seconds at the Millrose Games yesterday at Madison Square Garden.

Lewis' winning time eclipsed his world indoor best mark of 5:38.2 he set a year ago.

American Ed O'Rourke, who placed second in 5:55.88, was later disqualified by track officials because of his separate rule infractions.

Compatriot Gary Mangan, the third place finisher at 5:56.66, was ruled to have finished second. Third place went to another American, Curtis Fischer at 6:05.66.

## Bruno asked to wait a little

LONDON, Feb. 6, (AP): British heavyweight boxer Frank Bruno philosophically accepted on Thursday he will have to wait a little longer to challenge world champion Mike Tyson, despite the fact that he is the World Boxing Council's No. 1 contender.

British promoters had pencilled in a date for a match-up between Tyson and Bruno at Wembley soccer stadium. But all that was swept aside on Tuesday when the news came from the United States that Tyson would defend against Michael Spinks in a \$70 million clash that is set to be the biggest ever, financially, in the sport's history.

Bruno's response was: "Good luck to them. I only wish I had a percentage." His manager, Terry Lawless, added: "They'd be insane not to fix up the fight with that sort of money involved."

With Tyson also contracted to defend his titles against Tony Tubbs in Tokyo in March, Bruno probably will have to wait until September at the earliest for a shot at the champion. That would mean a contest in the meantime to prevent him getting ring-rusty.

Home Box Office, which is backing Tyson's fight series, reportedly is insisting, anyway, that Bruno meet another top-ten heavyweight to prove he is a worthy challenger for the world title.

"I'm ready to fight whenever one is fixed up and I don't mind who it is against," the 26-year-old Briton, beaten twice in 34 contests, said.

"I'm still the No. 1 contender to Tyson and I'm sure my chance will come."

## DURAN RAISES HIS RECORD TO 82-7

## Starling outpoints Ozaki to retain title

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., Feb. 6, (Reuters): American Marlon Starling made his first successful defence of the World Boxing Association welterweight championship when he outpointed Fujio Ozaki of Japan over 12 rounds here yesterday.

Judge Wiso Fernandez of Puerto Rico scored the fight 118-110, judge Rodolfo Maldonado of Panama scored it 117-114, and Carlos Sere of Venezuela had it 117-112 in favour of Starling.

For much of the fight Starling kept the Japanese challenger off balance with a steady diet of left jabs.

**Punches**  
The WBA champion out of the face of Ozaki in the second round. Ozaki won the fourth round when he landed a series of punches that drove the champion to his corner. Ozaki again shook Starling in the ninth round with a right hand that jarred the champion's mouthpiece.

But Starling continued to pile up points with his jab.

Starling improved his record to 45-4 while Ozaki's now stands at 21-5.

In other bouts, three-time world champion Roberto Duran of Panama raised his record to 82-7 with a unanimous 10-round decision over American Ricky Stackhouse in a 10-round middleweight contest.

Duran controlled the contest with a steady right hand that rocked Stackhouse throughout the fight. In the sixth round, Duran knocked him down with a right but Stackhouse got up at four and held on for the final 34 seconds of the round.

Two rounds later, the 36-year-old veteran buckled Stackhouse's knees with a five-punch

flurry sending him to the canvas with 1:08 left in the round.

Duran continued to dominate the final two rounds but could not knock Stackhouse down.

"I had to get into condition too fast," said Duran. "I was in top condition I could have knocked him out in the fourth or fifth round."

"I was happy to go 10 rounds. Right now, I want to get right back to business and hopefully fight in April."

American Mark Breland stopped Mexico's Juan Alonso Villa at 2:03 of the third round in a scheduled 10-round welterweight bout.

Breland dominated the fight and knocked Villa against the ropes in the second round.

## Foreman stops Trane in fifth round

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, Feb. 6, (AP): Former heavyweight champion George Foreman scored his seventh straight victory last night since returning to the ring, stopping a bloodied Guido Trane in the fifth round of their scheduled 10-round bout.

Trane was bleeding heavily from the nose and from a cut over his left eye when referee Mills Lane stopped the fight at 2:39 of the fifth round.

Foreman dominated the bout from the opening bell, but Trane proved to be his toughest comeback opponent yet, landing several shots in the fourth and fifth rounds that appeared to shake Foreman.

**Extended**  
"I played an acting job like I wasn't getting hurt, but he was beginning to get to me," the 40-

## TOURING TEAM CONTINUES ITS PATTERN OF DECLINE

## Sri Lanka collapse against Victoria

MELBOURNE, Australia, Feb. 6, (AP): Sri Lanka continued its pattern of gradual decline since arriving in Australia with a woeful batting performance today against Victoria at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

The Sri Lankans reached their Nadir with the Test against Australia only six days away as they crashed to 157 all out from 65.5 over against a consistent Victorian attack on a helpful but hardly terrifying pitch.

**Lashed**

The Sri Lankans arrived in Australia on Dec 22 and lashed the Western Australian bowlers four days later 7-382 from 93.3 overs with Asanka Gurusinha making 202, well supported by consistent scores from Aravinda de Silva and Brendon Kuruppu.

But since then, the tourists have had a hard time in the World Series Cup and provided only infrequent displays of their ability.

In Perth next week, they will face a confident Australian team. Today's start of play was delayed for two hours after heavy overnight rain seeped under the covers and umpires Bert Guy and David Holden declared the surrounds too soggy.

Victorian captain Dean Jones had no hesitation asking Sri Lanka to bat on a helpful-looking pitch that promised some assistance in his pace line-up of Merv Hughes, Tony Dodemaide, Paul Reiffel and Simon Davis.

Davis was the pick of the bowlers with his haul of 5-50 from 20 overs, taking the scalps of Rosoban Mahanama, Asanka Gurusinha, Arjuna Ranatunga, captain Ranjan Madugalle and

Champaka Ramanayake.

He served a consistent diet of little off-cutters on off-stump, and the Sri Lankan batsmen lost their patience long before his line started to waver.

**Patience**  
Gurusinha, Ranatunga and Ramanayake helped deliveries into the waiting slip cordon. Ranjan Madugalle played down the wrong line of a straight one and Mahanama spooned a catch to gully after finally losing the will to continue.

For Davis, the haul represented his first bag of five wickets in first-class cricket since he took 6-53 against Queensland at the MCCG in December, 1985.

Skipper Jones said the wicket had given some assistance but was not devilish for batting.

Opening bat Mahanama

provided the only real top order resistance of the day with a lonely three-hour vigil of 33 before he was the fifth man out at 87.

**Scoreboard**  
SRI LANKA first innings  
R Mahanama c Dodemaide b Davis 33  
B Kuruppu c Dimantina b Davis 11  
A Gurusinha c Dimantina b Davis 11  
A De Silva c Siddons b Reiffel 10  
A Ranatunga c Dimantina b Davis 9  
R Madugalle b Davis 20  
R Ramanayake c Dimantina b Hughes 29  
G De Alwis run out 2  
C Ramanayake c Whitmore b Davis 9  
G Labrooy c Dimantina b Dodemaide 10  
S Jeganathan not out 3  
Extras (lb-4 nb-3 w-4) 11  
Total 157  
Fall of wickets: 1-26 2-40 3-67 4-78 5-87 6-119 7-122 8-136 9-145  
Bowling: Hughes 19-3-166-1 (nb-2 w-3), Reiffel 15-4-30-2 (nb-1), Dodemaide 11.5-5-17-1 (w-1), Davis 20-8-50-5.

**Barsby and Botham put Queensland in command**

BRISBANE, Australia, Feb. 6, (Reuters): A century by opener Trevor Barsby and a dash of Ian Botham magic carried Queensland to an imposing 341 for seven at the close of the opening day of the Sheffield Shield match against South Australia today.

Barsby, batting with seven stitches in a cut finger, scored 102 in 203 minutes and figured in a 163-run partnership for the second wicket with Glenn Trimble, who made a steady 57.

Botham was at his swashbuckling best, churning seven furs and three sixes on his way to 60 in 75 minutes. He was not edging leg-spinner Peter Sleep to wicket-keeper Wayne Phillips just before the close.

Andrew Zeers was the pick of the bowlers, conceding only 58 runs from 28 overs of medium pace for nine wickets.

An unbeaten 81 by Australian opener Geoff Marsh rescued Western Australia from collapse against bottom side Tasmania in their shield match in Hobart.

Marsh batted for 330 minutes as his side recovered from 55 for three to reach 253 for six by the close.

He shared partnerships of 90 in 102 minutes for the fourth wicket with Wayne Andrews, 63 in 55 minutes for the fifth wicket with Tim Zoehrer, and 45 in 48 minutes for the sixth wicket with Chris Matthews.

**Fijian to face Aussie**

SUVA, Fiji, Feb. 6, (AP): Veteran Fijian boxer Sakaria Ve will face Australian Alex Temelkov for the vacant South Pacific middleweight title in Suva on March 19, promoter John Beater announced yesterday.

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## Kersee and Torrence score impressive victories

## Foster beats Nehemiah in hurdles

NEW YORK, Feb. 6, (AP): Greg Foster continued his recent domination over Renald Nehemiah, winning the 55-metre high hurdles in the Millrose Games last night at Madison Square Garden.

Long jumper Jackie Joyner-Kersee and sprinter Gwen Torrence also scored impressive victories.

**Rivalry**  
Although Nehemiah still holds a commanding lead with one dead heat over Foster in a rivalry that began in the late 1970s.

Clearly, it is Foster, who was timed in 7.07 seconds.

Nehemiah, still struggling to find the form and technique that carried him to the world outdoor record in the 110-metre hurdles and the world indoor best in the 55-metre hurdles, finished a distant fifth in 7.22, edging 1984 Olympic champion Roger Kingdom, who was last in the same time.

Nehemiah was the first out of the blocks in the six-man race, but Foster caught him quickly, beating him over the first hurdle. He never trailed again.

"I've gotten used to the fact that I won't always start first," said Foster, who was competing with a slight cold.

Foster said he wasn't worried about Nehemiah's fast start.

"I only worry about myself," he said. "I know I can't win if I don't start well."

Nehemiah continued to bemoan his poor technique.

**Puzzle**  
"There are still some pieces of the puzzle missing... some big gaps," he said. "Basically, my speed and strength are there, but where I'm losing it is over the top of the hurdles. That's where I'm still behind the other runners."

"My technique is all wrong. For me, it's like starting all over. Technically, I'm in the air too much. Then, I lose my balance, going over the hurdle."

Arthur Blake finished second in 7.10 and Cletus Clark was third in 7.12.

The victory was Foster's second in a row in the Millrose Games, his fifth in six years and his sixth overall.

He was ranked No. 1 in the world last year and won the gold medal in the world outdoor championships in 1987 for the second straight time, taking over the mantle that once belonged to the now struggling Nehemiah.

No one, however, seems able to displace Joyner-Kersee as the outstanding woman's track and field athlete.

Joyner-Kersee, the Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year for 1987, won the long jump with a meet record 22 feet, 8.5 inches (6.9m) — only two inches (5cm) short of her American indoor record.

In smashing the meet mark of 21-11.5 (6.69m) she set in 1985, Joyner-Kersee had three jumps over 22 feet (6.7m).

Torrence sped to victory in the women's 55-metre dash in 6.64 for her 34th consecutive victory in 16 meets, including trials and semifinals.

Torrence burst out quickly and easily beat 1984 100-metre gold medalist Evelyn Ashford, who finished second in 6.71.

In the famed wanamaker mile, Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan, the 1987 world indoor champion, waited patiently before seizing the lead with 1.5 laps remaining, and breezed to victory in 3:56.89.

**British team flies to Calgary**  
LONDON, Feb. 6, (AP): Britain's team for the winter Olympic games left for Calgary today, laden down with baggage but with only an outside chance of medals.

The party of 116, the biggest ever assembled for a winter games by his country, flew out from Heathrow without any realistic hopes of coming home with bonuses in the absence of big-name skaters who have boosted success in recent years, such as Jane Tonnill and Christopher Dean.

**No facilities**  
"For a country which doesn't have any alps, not too much snow and no proper indoor winter sports facilities, it's not a bad team," said Charles Palmer, chairman of the British Olympic Association and team commandant.

"We can't say as in the last three games that we are going in with a world or European champion on the firm. This time we are not in that fortunate position, but we have got opportunities of coming back with medals if we are lucky."

Palmer said the lack of facilities at home was often to blame for Britain's lack of success in the winter games.

"We invented Bob-Sleigh, we invented luge — and there's not one Bob or luge run in the country. They have to go abroad," he said.

"The downhill skiers have to do the same. There is a little bit of skiing in Scotland but most people travel on the white circus around Europe and the world during the season."

In Calgary, Alberta, progress reports and nagging problems are expected to take up most of the time as the International Olympic Committee opens a week



The official mascots of the 1988 Winter Olympics are ready to start welcoming visitors to Calgary.

of meetings prior to the start of the Calgary winter games.

The IOC's executive board, headed by President Juan Antonio Samaranch, is starting weekend talks today.

The board will consider committee reports and other matters to be presented to the IOC's 93rd session, which opens on Monday at Calgary's convention centre.

Nothing earth-shaking is on the agenda for either the board or the session, but several key items will be considered.

The question of allowing tennis players to compete in South Africa and the possible impact that might have on the Olympics

now that tennis pros are allowed in are expected to be discussed by at least the board.

**Demands**  
So is what to do about North Korea's continuing demands to co-host the 1988 summer games. The North was one of only six nations out of 167 IOC members to reject an invitation to Seoul, and a special IOC panel is drawing up possible punishment for boycotting countries.

The board also could take up the case of Sergei Gulyaev, a world champion speed skater from the Soviet Union involved in allegations of steroid smuggling.

## Old Boys outclass Gold Star



Kirees, 58 not out

By Riaz Chaudhry

OLD BOYS Cricket Club (OBCC) led shrewdly by veteran all-rounder Ghulam Haider trounced Gold Star Cricket Club (GSCC) by 38 runs at Dasman Complex ground, Sharq on Friday afternoon.

After winning the toss OBCC elected to bat and scored 157 runs in allotted 25 overs losing five wickets in the process. Idrees batted with complete authority never all the bowlers scoring unbeaten 58 runs including eight superbly executed boundaries.

Ghulam Haider also batted well and hit four furs in his knock of 33 valuable runs. Riaz Chaudhry 25 and Riaz Mian 18 (not-out) also contributed towards the total.

For GSCC Zaheer, Razak, Khadam, Tariq and Mehmood picked a wicket each. Needing 6.33 per over GSCC lost the wickets at regular intervals and reached only 119 in 25 overs after losing eight wickets.

Razak played responsible innings of 62 unbeaten runs, hitting six boundaries, but could not save GSCC from defeat.

Nadeem 12 was only other batsman to reach the double figures. Iftikhar Hussain led the bowling onslaught for OBCC taking three for 18 runs as Ghulam Haider, Riaz Mian, Ejaz and Riaz Chaudhry got a scalp each.

Idrees after a fine batting performance excelled in wicket-keeping.

**England will not replace injured Foster**

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand, Feb. 6, (Reuters): England will not replace injured pace bowler Neil Foster, who was returning home today less than a week before the first cricket Test against New Zealand.

Tour manager Peter Lush said the five seam bowlers left in the party would be enough for the rest of the tour.

Foster left the team in Australia after a specialist told him to rest his injured knee for four weeks. His team-mates flew on to New Zealand where they will start a three-day game against a Shell XI in New Plymouth tomorrow.

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## SPORTS

## Adams upsets Fendick to reach finals

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Feb. 6, (AP): Unseeded American Katrina Adams came from behind today in the semifinals of the \$50,000 Virginia Slims of Wellington women's tennis tournament to record the most important victory of her short pro career.

Down one set and 2-5 to top-seeded Patty Fendick, Adams staged the comeback of the tournament to win 3-6, 7-6, 6-4 and earn a place in tomorrow's final. She is playing in only her second major tournament since turning professional.

Adams will meet Canadian Jill Hetherington, the tournament's 13th seed who completed her best week on the circuit by ousting the second-seeded and 29th ranked player in the world Anne Minter of Australia 7-5, 2-6, 6-4.

Minter struggled on serve and at 15-40 down double faulted to leave Hetherington to serve for the set.

## LUTON BEAT OXFORD IN GOAL SPREE

## Liverpool stumble to a draw against West Ham

LONDON, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Runaway leaders Liverpool suffered a rare indignity today when they stumbled to a 0-0 draw at home to West Ham and found themselves upstaged by the goal exploits of two of the English First Division's least fashionable clubs.

While Liverpool struggled to extend their club record unbeaten start to the season to 25 matches, Luton beat Oxford 7-4 in an extraordinary clash in front of only 8,000 fans at Kenilworth Road.

## Points

Liverpool's point against West Ham kept them 15 points clear of Nottingham Forest and Manchester United at the top. Forest beat Chelsea 3-2 and United, 30 years to the day after the Munich air disaster killed eight of the "Busby Babes", beat Coventry 1-0.

Luton, unbeaten in eight games, made a storming start

against Oxford and led 2-0 after only 19 minutes, thanks to goals from Mick Harford and Brian Stein.

But Oxford fought back to make it 3-2 at the interval, Dean Saunders with a penalty and Martin Foyle sandwiching another Luton strike from Farron McDonough. Luton striker Mark Stein then scored an 11-minute hat-trick at the start of the second half, Oxford replying through Richard Hill, to put the home team 6-3 ahead and further goals followed from Harford and Les Phillips before the final whistle.

The two teams meet again on Wednesday at Oxford in an English League Cup semifinal, first leg.

## Results

English Division One	
Liverpool	0 West Ham 0
Luton	7 Oxford 4
Manchester U	1 Coventry 0
Norwich	0 Watford 0

Nottingham Forest	3 Chelsea 2
Portsmouth	2 Derby 1
QPR	2 Charlton 0
Sheffield Wed	2 Southampton 1
Wimbledon	0 Newcastle 0

Postponed: Tottenham v Everton  
Division Two  
Aston Villa 2 Leicester 1  
Blackburn 2 Manchester City 1  
Bournemouth 6 Hull 2  
Crystal Palace 3 Birmingham 0  
Leeds 1 Ipswich 1  
Millwall 0 Bradford 2  
Oldham 4 Reading 1  
Shrewsbury 0 West Brom 0  
Stoke 1 Sheffield U 0  
Swindon 1 Middlesbrough 1

Postponed: Plymouth v Barnsley  
Division Three  
Aldershot 4 Chester 1  
Blackpool 1 Brighton 3  
Bristol City 3 Bury 2  
Chesterfield 1 Gillingham 4  
Fulham 0 Mansfield 0  
Grimsby 0 Preston 1  
Northampton 1 Doncaster 0  
Sunderland 1 Walsall 1  
Wigan 1 Bristol Rovers 0  
York 2 Port Vale 3

Postponed: Rotherham v Brentford  
Played on Friday:

Southend	1 Notts County 2
Division Four	
Bolton	1 Hereford 0
Cambridge	1 Torquay 0
Carlisle	2 Stockport 0
Leyton Orient	0 Hartlepool 2
Reckdale	2 Scunthorpe 1
Swansea	0 Burnley 0
Tranmere	1 Scarborough 0
Wolverhampton	1 Cardiff 4

Postponed: Darlington v Peterborough, Wrexham v Exeter  
Scottish Premier Division  
Aberdeen 1 Rangers 2  
Celtic 1 Motherwell 0  
Dundee United 2 Morton 0  
Falkirk 1 Dunfermline 0  
Hibernian 2 Dundee 1  
St Mirren 0 Hearts 6

Scottish Division One  
Aberdeen 1 Dundee 1  
Clydebank 1 Queen of South 1  
East Fife 0 Meadowbank 0  
Hamilton 2 Clyde 0  
Kilmarnock 0 Forfar 2  
Partick 5 Raith 0  
Scottish Division Two  
Ayr 2 East Stirling 0  
Cowdenbeath 1 Stirling Albion 1  
Queen's Park 1 Montrose 1  
St Johnstone 4 Albion 1

Stirling	2 Stranraer 0
Postponed: Berwick v Alloa, Brechin v Arbroath	
Northern Premier League	
Bangor	2 Maitlock 0
Barrow	0 Workop 1

(Played at Workop)  
Caernarfon 2 Buxton 1  
Chorley 5 Oswestry 1  
Gateshead 1 Marine 3  
Postponed: Horwich v Hyde

## Standings

English League soccer tables after today's matches (tabularia under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points)

English Division One	
Liverpool	25 19 6 0 59 11 63
Notts Forest	25 14 6 5 49 23 48
Manchester U	24 13 9 4 39 25 48
Everton	23 12 7 6 36 16 43
QPR	22 12 7 7 32 28 43
Arsenal	26 12 6 8 37 25 42
Wimbledon	26 11 8 7 39 30 41
Luton	25 11 5 9 39 30 38
Sheffield Wed	26 11 4 11 33 39 37
Newcastle	25 8 9 8 30 35 33
Tottenham	26 9 6 11 26 31 33
Southampton	26 8 8 10 34 38 32
West Ham	26 7 10 9 28 34 31
Chelsea	27 8 7 12 33 45 31

Portsmouth	27 6 11 10 26 43 29
Aston Villa	26 7 5 14 23 33 26
Norwich	26 6 7 11 34 39 25
Coventry	24 6 6 12 21 30 24
Derby	26 5 8 13 17 32 23
Watford	25 6 5 14 32 53 23
Oxford	26 4 8 14 23 40 20
Charlton	26 4 8 14 23 40 20

English Division Two  
Aston Villa 31 17 10 4 50 25 61  
Blackburn 30 16 9 5 44 28 57  
Crystal Palace 31 17 4 10 66 47 55  
Middlesbrough 30 15 8 7 41 24 53  
Millwall 30 16 4 10 49 37 52  
Bradford 29 15 6 8 43 35 51  
Leeds 31 14 8 9 43 38 50  
Hull 29 13 9 7 43 40 48  
Hull 29 13 9 7 43 40 48  
Ipswich 30 13 7 10 40 36 46  
Manchester C 30 12 6 12 38 45 42  
Swindon 27 12 6 9 40 37 42  
Oldham 30 12 6 12 37 39 42  
Stoke 30 11 7 12 39 40 40  
Barnsley 27 11 6 10 42 36 39  
Plymouth 29 11 6 12 46 45 39  
Birmingham 30 9 8 13 30 48 35  
Bournemouth 29 9 7 13 43 47 34  
Sheffield U 30 8 6 16 32 52 30  
West Brom 31 8 5 18 35 54 29  
Leicester 29 7 15 36 44 28  
Shrewsbury 31 5 11 15 26 42 26  
Reading 29 6 6 17 32 54 24  
Huddersfield 29 4 8 17 31 68 20

## France win four-nation soccer tourney

MONACO, Feb. 6, (Reuters): France, full European champions, won a four-nation soccer tournament when they defeated Morocco 2-1 in the final yesterday.

Striker Yannick Stopyra headed both French goals, one in each half, from passes by Jean-Marc Ferretti to give the home team a little encouragement after a dire slide since the 1986 World Cup finals.

But the victory over a team shorn of its best players was not wholly convincing and France still have a long way to go as they try to rebuild their fortunes following the departure of Michel Platini and most of the key players who lifted them to two World Cup semifinals.

Switzerland, beaten 2-1 by France in Toulouse on Tuesday, took third place with a 2-1 win over Austria, their first over their alpine neighbours in 20 years.

Until this tournament, France had won only once in 11 outings since taking third place in the Mexico World Cup, failing along the way to qualify for the final series of the European championship in defence of the title they won in 1984.

After scoring twice in the first nine minutes against Switzerland, France again took a quick lead in the final when Stopyra profited from an error by goalkeeper Khalil Azmi to head home in the ninth minute.

But Morocco troubled the French defence with swift attacks and goalkeeper Bruno Martini did well in the 27th minute to foil El Ghazaf, who had scored twice in Tuesday's 3-1 defeat of Austria.

Six minutes later Morocco deservedly equalised through left back Abdelmajid Lamrissi after a blunder by central defender Basile Boli.

Stopyra restored the French lead four minutes after the interval when Ferretti, who provided most of the more imaginative openings, again supplied the perfect pass.

## Alen drives to victory

KARLSTAD, Sweden, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Finland's Markku Alen drove his Lancia to victory today in the Swedish motor rally, the second event of the 1988 world championship.  
"Sweden's Stig Blomqvist was second in a Ford, followed by co-pilot Lars Torp in an Audi.

## Kuwait teams to drive in Qatar

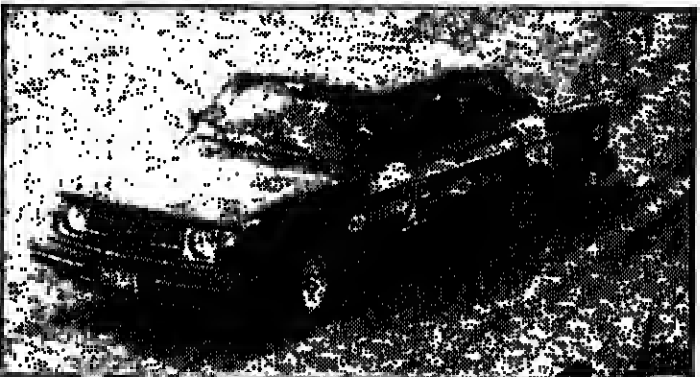
By Gail Seery

KUWAIT-based drivers Lester Featherstonehaugh and novice Mike Allen will be entering this weekend's Qatar Rally, which is the first round of the 1988 Middle East Championship. Both will be driving Volvo 240s, though Allen's car is a turbo model.

Allen drove in the local rally last month, where he came through to finish 17th despite a multitude of problems which included a fire in his fuel tank. He was partnered by Martin Phillips and driving Featherstonehaugh's car. This will be his first outing in the Volvo 240 turbo.

## Participated

Lester is an experienced driver, having participated in a great number of UK, local and Middle East Championship events, including the 1986 Qatar Rally; his last was the Kuwait International Rally where problems



Driver Mike Allen in action

forced him out of the competition on the first leg.

Lester who is to be partnered by Mike Allen, father of the driver of the other Volvo, said that the two cars had part sponsorship from Castrol, and would be aiming to take part in all six rounds of this year's championship.

The two drivers will definitely

participate in Jordan in June, as well as in the Kuwait International in March. They will then examine the possibilities and practicalities of competing the remaining three events.

The teams expect to arrive in Qatar to start their practice sessions, and will have the back-up support of Al Futain, the local Volvo Agent.

## Holder Sweden take Davis Cup lead

GAVLE, Sweden, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Doubles partners Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd today booked Sweden's place in the second round of the Davis Cup world group competition with a 6-3 7-5 6-4 win over New Zealand's Kelly Evernden and David Lewis.

The victory gave defending champions Sweden an unbeatable 3-0 lead without having lost a set ahead of tomorrow's reverse singles matches.

## Outcome

The outcome was never really in doubt, with the Swedes taking only 24 minutes to win the first set on the strength of a devastating display of accurate first serves from both players.

The New Zealand partnership failed to win a single point in the Swedish service game during the first set, and Lewis's serve was broken to love in the sixth game.

Evernden and Lewis made a desperate attempt to stop the rot, saving three set points in their own service game at 2-5, but Edberg served to love in the following game to clinch the set.

The second set looked like turning into another of the marathons seen in yesterday's singles matches, when one set lasted 98 minutes.

In the fourth game, Jarryd lost his service after making two double faults but the Swedes replied coolly in the next game by breaking Lewis's serve to love.

Lewis, finding himself the centre of attention in anti-apartheid Sweden following his controversial tour of South Africa last year, looked strained on court and his serve was shown up as the weak link in the New Zealand defence.

## Five Nations Rugby

## Scotland upset France

EDINBURGH, Feb. 6, (Reuters): Full-back Gavin Hastings scored 16 points, including a try when he ran the length of the pitch, as Scotland recorded an emphatic 23-12 victory over title-holders France in the Five Nations Rugby Union International at Murrayfield today.

Hastings also kicked four penalties in an impressive Scottish points' tally that also included a try by left-wing Iwan Tukalo and a drop goal by Richard Cramb.

France, runners up in the inaugural World Cup in New Zealand last year and winners of their previous eight Five Nations matches including their opening game of the current tournament against England, made a promising start when in the first minute Jean-Patrick Lescaudrou dropped a goal.

But thereafter the French were outplayed by the rampant Scots. A penalty from wing Pierre Berot was their only other first-half score and it was not until the dying minutes that they added to their points when wing Patrice Lagisquet went over for a try in the corner which Berot converted.

In London left-wing Adrian Hadley scored twice within 10 minutes to clinch an 11-3 win for Wales over England in the Five Nations Rugby Union championship match at Twickenham today.

The match, while never rising to the heights, was still a keenly-fought encounter in the best traditions of England-Wales matches with the flair and improvisation of the Welsh backs proving the decisive factor.

## Rob Baker maintains Challenge Cup lead

By Gail Seery

ROB Baker took an eleven point lead in the Ahmadi Challenge Cup on Friday, after four incident full races. Jeff Butt now lies in second place, followed by novice Eric Andrews, who trails him by eight points.

The Challenge Cup consists of four races, the points for these are totted up to give a cumulative total, and therefore a winner for the day. Friday's races formed the third round of the challenge, and were hotly contested.

## First race

In the first race Dennis Fulcher took victory, followed by Lloyd, Andrews, Gandy, Butt and Baker.

Andrews started the race from pole position, with Baker at the back of the grid. Over the next six laps Baker worked his way forward to fourth place, behind Fulcher, Andrews and Butt. Andrews was pressured off by Butt at the club house bend, but managed to keep in the race, while Baker mounted a strong challenge to Butt and passed him on the seventh lap. Shortly afterwards the two collided; this incident was later the subject of a protest by Baker, who felt that Butt had driven dangerously. This was upheld and Butt was reprimanded.

Race two saw only three of the seven drivers finishing. Baker won, followed by Fulcher and Lloyd. Butt suffered brake problems which forced him to retire, and Andrews was "nudged off" early in the race. This time he was unable to restart. Gandy went out on lap 2, and Thomas had a seized engine on the fourth lap.

## Second win

In race three Baker took his second win of the day, followed by Lloyd, Andrews and Butt. Butt was at the back of the grid and never came through. Lloyd had pole position, next to Thomas, and leading Andrews, but Baker had pushed through to take the lead by the third lap.

In the final men's race Butt had pole and took the lead, ahead of Baker, Gandy, Fulcher and Andrews, who once again was to find himself bumped off the track a few laps later. Baker was chasing very close behind and the result at the finishing line was a matter of inches. "The race was very well driven," said Sue Andrews, official scorer for the kart club.

Baker said that he had gone into the final race knowing that he needed to come second, ahead of Fulcher and Lloyd, in order to win the day's event and lengthen his lead in the Cup. "I drove a close race, waiting for any mistakes," he said. "He didn't make any, but I wanted to prove that you can drive close without push-



Rob Baker crosses the finish line

ing another driver off."

The standings in the Ahmadi Challenge Cup are now as follows: Baker (kart 1) 186, Butt (kart 2) 175, Andrews (kart 7) 167, Lloyd (kart 5) 159, Fulcher (kart 3) 157, Gandy (kart 6) 154, Thomas (kart 4) 68.

The day also saw the second round of the Ladies' Championship in which Sue Andrews took her second victory. She started from anti-pole position and took an immediate lead which was never challenged. Second was Jillian Burns, who started well back in the grid — by the time she came through, the gap between her and Sue Andrews could not be closed. Bimmi Martin seized her engine early in the race, and while the others were spinning, Sue Andrews and Jillian Burns both drove a safe and consistent race. Louise Tait finished in third position. The other racers were Tina Matthews, Mini Nainen, and Ivy George.

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